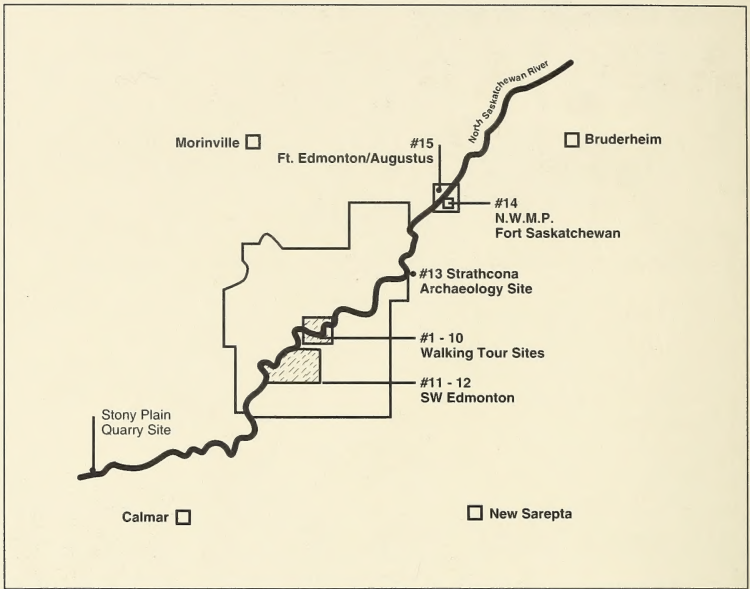


AL. 2. 5006-76
C. 2

ARCHAEOLOGY

GUIDE & TOUR OF GREATER EDMONTON AREA





The Greater Edmonton Area showing the key archaeological sites and walking tours.

Cover Photos

Top: North Saskatchewan River Valley, Fort Edmonton V (1830 - 1907.

Bottom Right: Archaeological excavations, Fort Edmonton V, 1994.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CONTENTS OF THIS BOOKLET	2
--------------------------------	---

I. INTRODUCTION - EDMONTON'S ARCHAEOLOGY

Nature Prepares for the First People.....	4
The First Europeans - The Archaeology of the Fur Trade	13
Urban Archaeology	21

II. A SHORT WALKING TOUR

1. Grandin LRT Station	24
2. Ezio Faraone Park	25
3. Legislature Grounds.	30
4. Rosedale Flats	36
5. Waltherdale Flats.....	37
6. LRT & High Level Bridge.....	39
7. Royal Glenora Club.....	40

III. LONG WALKING TOUR

8. Victoria Park.....	41
9. Government House Park.....	43
10. Government House/Provincial Museum	43

IV. THE INNER TOURS PROVINCIAL MUSEUM.....

V. THE BIKING/DRIVING TOUR

11. History of Edmonton's Kames	45
12. Intersection of Saskatchewan Drive & Fox Drive	48
13. Strathcona Archaeological Site	48
14. Fort Saskatchewan N.W.M.P. Post	51
15. Fort Edmonton/Augustus I Area.	53

Photo - Map Credits and Acknowledgements	56
Suggested Readings	57

CONTENTS OF THIS BOOKLET

The Greater Edmonton Area contains a rich and interesting archaeological record. This booklet interprets the human history of the region from an archaeological perspective – the physical remains that humans left behind when they lived here. These remains consist of scattered stone flakes and tools used by Aboriginal people for thousands of years, archaeological fur trade sites that European traders built along the banks of the North Saskatchewan River, and Edmonton's early urban and industrial sites. If you look carefully, you will be surprised what pieces of human history lie beneath your feet.

The booklet's main purpose is to promote an awareness of this rich archaeological heritage in the region by pointing out key archaeological sites and the physical evidence of the past they contain. This booklet is also intended to educate you about how we go about doing archaeology. This is accomplished by illustrating these sites with recent or historic photographs, the archaeological remains that have been found at them, or with illustrations of artifacts and objects that have been recovered there. The graphics and illustrations in this booklet are intended to help you interpret the physical or cultural landscape that occurs around you, to better place it within the context of a particular time period, or to compare landscapes of the past with those of the present. You will view your surroundings through the eyes of an archaeologist.

From an archaeologist's perspective, you will learn about some of the techniques that archaeologists use to discover the hidden evidence and fragmentary material remains of past human activity. And, you will also learn the single most important objective of archaeological investigation – preserving context. Where an item is found, and the associations between that artifact and other nearby artifacts are crucial to our understanding of the past. Objects by themselves contain some information about the past, but without context the archaeologist is faced with an almost impossible task – assembling a puzzle that contains no interlocking pieces. To preserve context, archaeologists spend many hours carefully removing layers of soil, measuring the location of each artifact and observing the pattern of objects found in the archaeological site. You will also learn, that even when historic documents exist, the archaeological record is still very important in learning about Alberta's heritage. You will learn to appreciate the history of an area from a material perspective, that is, the physical evidence that humans leave behind.

This booklet is divided into two sections: 1) an introduction to the archaeological history of the Edmonton area; and, 2) a series of walking, biking or driving tours of archaeological sites located in the area. In the first section, the archaeological history of the area will provide you with the background necessary to understand and appreciate more fully the archaeological sites that you visit and the rich sources of information about the past that they contain. It is impossible to go into great detail here, and sections such as the one on Edmonton's urban archaeology can only give a few examples of this rich and complex archaeological record.

In the second part of the booklet, three different lengths of tours

are described, depending on your energy levels. You can either join the guided tours given by staff of the Provincial Museum of Alberta, or use this booklet and its contents to guide you as you explore some key areas in and around Edmonton with your family and friends.

The locations illustrated in this booklet and visited during the tour, include prehistoric and historic archaeological sites, paleontological sites, and standing historic structures and landscapes. All of these historic resources are protected under the provisions of the Historical Resources Act of Alberta. No objects associated with these historical resources should be removed and the contents of the sites cannot be modified without the written permission of the Minister of Community Development, Government of Alberta.

Please protect our historic resources and enjoy your tour of Edmonton's archaeological heritage!

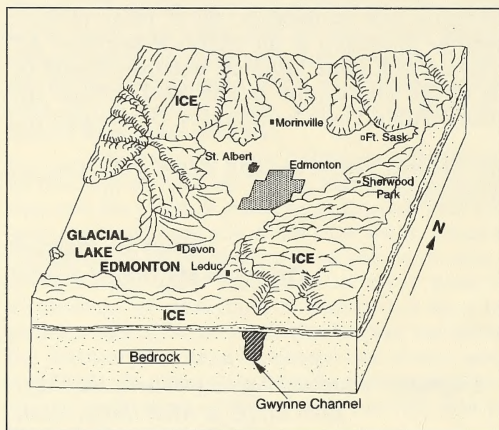
Heinz W. Pyszczyk
Provincial Museum of Alberta

*Emphasis in archaeology is gradually shifting...
from things to what things mean.*

Alfred V. Kidder
Archaeologist

I INTRODUCTION - EDMONTON'S ARCHAEOLOGY

NATURE PREPARES FOR THE FIRST PEOPLE



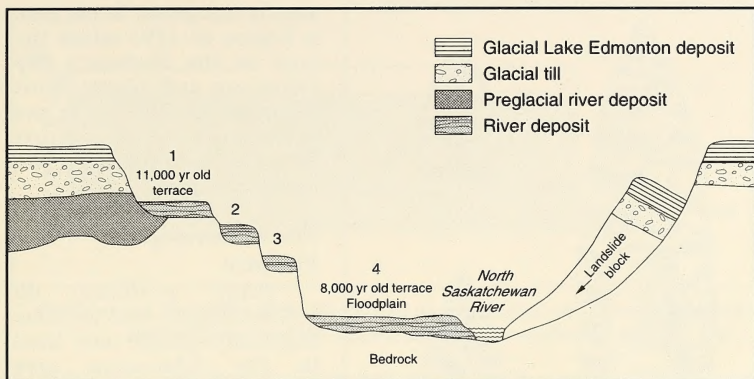
*The Edmonton region during the last stages of deglaciation, showing the position of Glacial Lake Edmonton and the Gwynne Channel
(Adapted from J.D. Godfrey, Edmonton Beneath Our Feet).*

The Edmonton area was becoming ice-free and was covered by water from the melting glaciers. The melt water formed Glacial Lake Edmonton – a short lived body of water which drained rapidly away through a channel south of Edmonton, setting the stage for the appearance of the North Saskatchewan River. Water flowing over the old glacial lake bed eventually established a preferred channel, and thousands of years of erosion formed the river valley we see today.

The river valley walls are composed of unstable sands, silts and gravels which periodically collapse in large and small landslides. Some of these landslides were caused when old coal mines that once lined the river valley collapsed. Today, the river snakes between wide valley walls, eroding former flood plain deposits within the valley. Because the valley was carved out from top to bottom, the earliest archaeological sites will be found on the highest river terraces. Occupations dating after 8,000 years ago can be found on the lowest terrace, but also on the highest terraces as well.

Archaeologists are not certain when the first people occupied the river valley. We do know that animals inhabited the area for millions of years, based on fossil dinosaur remains found in the valley. Immediately prior to the last glaciation, approximately 25,000 years ago, mammoth, sabre-toothed cat, camel and muskox roamed the region. The bones of these and

When we look at the North Saskatchewan River valley today it is difficult to imagine when it did not exist. But approximately 12,000 years ago there was only a flat lake bottom here. Prior to that date, the Edmonton area was covered by glacial ice – the last in a series of glacial events that have profoundly altered Alberta and most of northern North America. No one is exactly sure when the last ice sheet melted, but by 12,000 years ago the



River valley profile.

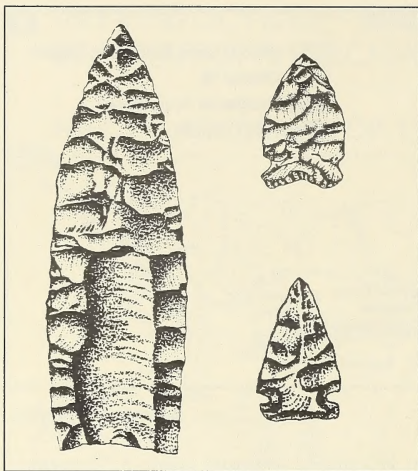
other animals have been found in the gravel deposits around Cloverbar, near the east end of Edmonton. There is no evidence of human activity in the Edmonton area at this time, but by 11,000 years ago there is firm evidence of human occupation in Alberta, extending from the Peace River region to the Bow River drainage.

The valley cuts through the earth and exposes many ancient layers. The most recent sediments begin at the very top of the valley and consist of glacial lake sands and clays. Till sediments, deposited by the scouring ice mass that once covered much of Alberta, occur beneath the lake sediments. Beneath the glacial till, the river has exposed the gravel and sands left by even earlier glaciers and former rivers. Finally, at the bottom of the valley, the river continues to erode the 100 million year old Cretaceous sandstone bedrock.

The First 10,000 Years

Archaeologists have divided Alberta's prehistoric past into three major time periods: 1) Early (11,500 - 7,500 years before present); 2) Middle (7,500 - 1,750 years before present); and, 3) Late (1,750 - 300 years before present) Prehistoric Periods. Each time period contains distinctively shaped stone projectile points as well as other stone tools made and used by Native people. Stone projectile point shapes change through time. One reason they change in shape and size is that they performed different functions. The large points from the Early Prehistoric Period were used on thrusting spears, the points from the Middle Prehistoric Period were atlatl (spear thrower) darts. The smaller projectile points from the Late Prehistoric Period were used on arrows and represent bow and arrow technology. The three projectile points below represent portions of each major time period; however, many other point types occur in each period.

The Protohistoric Period refers to the indirect period of contact and trade between Native People and Europeans, occurring from A.D.1690 to A.D.1795. The Historic Period refers to the first permanent settlement in the



Points from three time periods (clockwise from left) Clovis, 11,000 - 10,000 years ago; Oxbow, 4,600 - 3,000 years ago; Plains Side-notched, 1,200 - 250 years ago.

area by Europeans. In our area, it begins in 1795 when the men of the Hudson's Bay Company and North West Company paddled upriver and established Forts Edmonton/Augustus I near Fort Saskatchewan.

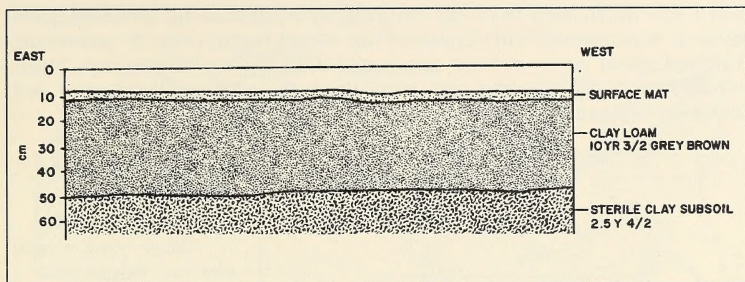
The Archaeological Evidence

What evidence do archaeologists find to show that Native people once lived in the Edmonton area thousands of years ago? The most common articles that archaeologists find are stone tools and flakes, pieces of clay pottery, and animal bones from people's meals. This scene of human activity is called an archaeological site.

A site may be as large as an ancient city where thousands of people once lived, or it may consist of only a few scattered pieces of stone flakes, which are the remnants of stone tool making by one person. In the Edmonton area, many of these small sites mark where a few families once hunted and camped; they represent the first 9,000 - 10,000 years of human history. Other sites, such as the Stony Plain Quarry, Prosser and Strathcona sites (which are discussed in more detail later), cover many hectares and contain thousands of stone artifacts that date back thousands of years.

Many of the archaeological sites that are located on the tops of the river valleys and in fields around Edmonton, occur less than one metre below the surface of the ground. These sites have very compressed layers of sediments (commonly known as stratigraphy) where thousands of years of human occupation are deposited in a few centimetres of sediment. Dating and separating the layers and artifacts in these sediments is a real problem for the archaeologist. Often two projectile points, made 2,000 years apart, are separated by only a few centimetres of soil. For example, at the Strathcona archaeological site, it has been estimated that one centimetre of soil was deposited every 157 years. At archaeological sites that occur along the lower river terraces, where frequent flooding occurred, cultural remains may be buried by two metres of sediment and contain well defined layers.

How many archaeological sites does the Edmonton area contain? Archaeologists are not exactly sure, because they have not looked at every square metre of the ground. Some archaeological sites are deeply buried in the river sediments, while others have been destroyed by construction of houses, roads and parks. Approximately 780 archaeological sites have been



Profile of soil deposition at the Strathcona archaeological site. There are few well defined layers and the cultural deposits are shallow (from Ives, 1985).

recorded in an area from Redwater west to Morinville, south to Calmar and east to New Serepta. Only a few of these sites have been accurately dated or even investigated.

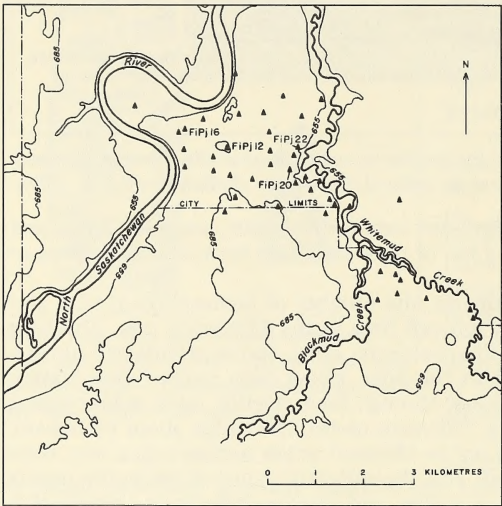
Like other areas of Alberta, the number of archaeological sites and projectile points increases through time in the Edmonton area. This very interesting trend gives archaeologists clues about prehistoric human settlement and land use in the area. These facts suggest that Native populations gradually increased through time, creating more archaeological sites and projectile points. This very useful knowledge about prehistoric human populations could not be obtained unless archaeological sites were first located and recorded, and the different types of projectile points counted; both archaeological sites and private collections contain this important information.

The distribution of archaeological sites over the landscape is also an important source of information for archaeologists. In the Edmonton area, and elsewhere along the North Saskatchewan River and the creeks running into it, many sites occur along the edges of the river and creek valleys. The river and its resources attracted prehistoric people. Many of the largest sites in the area occur along the upper terraces of the North Saskatchewan River Valley. These camping spots were occupied by Native people during certain parts of the year, and they returned to them for thousands of years.

Many of the archaeological sites that occur on the high river terraces often face west or south. On a sunny day take a stroll along the edge of Saskatchewan Drive, overlooking Fox Drive, or along the Provincial Museum of Alberta grounds. In the sheltered areas, there is a significant increase in temperature, and the view of the entire valley is very good. These are two likely reasons for choosing these spots to camp. Furthermore, many of the good camping spots border creeks or ravines that run into the North Saskatchewan River. For example, the Strathcona site, one of the largest sites in the region, was repeatedly occupied over a 5,000 - 6,000 year period. It lies near the junction of the edge of a ravine and the North Saskatchewan River.

If you live in Riverbend, you might be surprised how many sites archaeologists found there before it became a residential area. People lived in Riverbend for at least 6,000 years. The accompanying map of Riverbend,

shows the north area that was thoroughly examined by archaeologists before it was covered with houses. They found over 30 prehistoric archaeological sites, or one site every 0.12 square kilometres. High archaeological site densities also exist along the edges of Whitemud and Blackmud Ravine.



The triangles mark archaeological sites in Riverbend and along Whitemud and Blackmud Creek (from Ives, 1985).

The Geology and Archaeology of Edmonton's Hills

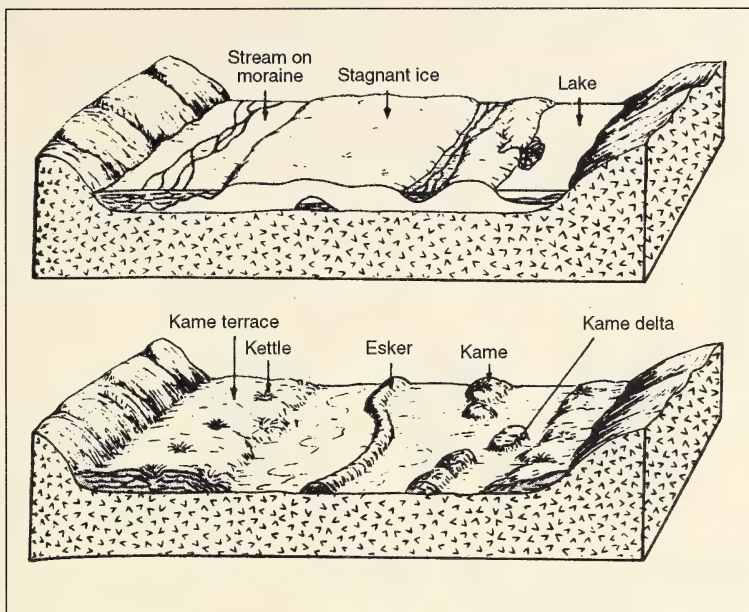
Once you climb out of Edmonton's steep river and creek valleys, the ground is relatively flat. However, there are a few high hills in Edmonton. When you drive through Riverbend, and approach the intersection of Riverbend Road and Rabbit Hill Road from the east, you will drive up a hill. Similar hills occur at the intersection of Calgary Trail south and the Whitemud Freeway, and the Pleasantview Cemetery. These hills

are kames. They were formed by glacial meltwaters depositing layers of sediments, known as glacial drift.

Prehistoric people often camped on the tops of these kames, leaving behind a rich archaeological record. The hills offered a good vantage point to view the surrounding countryside, a cool breeze during the hot summer months and dry, well drained ground to camp on. Even today, people prefer to live on top of these high spots. The kame in Riverbend contained a large prehistoric camp site on which people had camped approximately 6,000 years ago and as recently as historic times. Kames in other areas of central Alberta such those that occur south of Lake Wabamun, also contain many prehistoric archaeological sites.

Edmonton's Rocks & Stone Tools

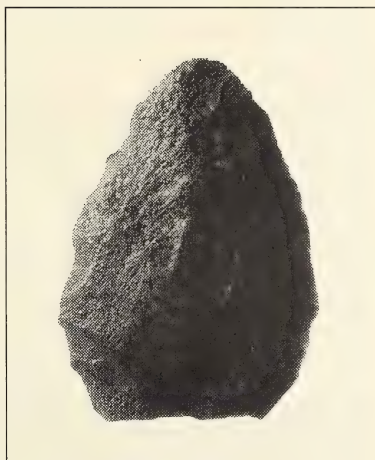
In the past, humans depended on available resources in an area to make their dwellings, tools, and clothing. Ancient hunter/gatherers of Alberta, used certain types of rocks to make sharp, durable stone tools. Such rocks were exposed where pre-glacial gravel formations were eroded by running



Kame formation.

water. Although rocks are exposed everywhere today in the open cultivated fields, it would have been very hard for people to find them in forests or grasslands. The North Saskatchewan River Valley and Whitemud and Blackmud Creek valleys, were cut deep by water, and exposed these gravel formations.

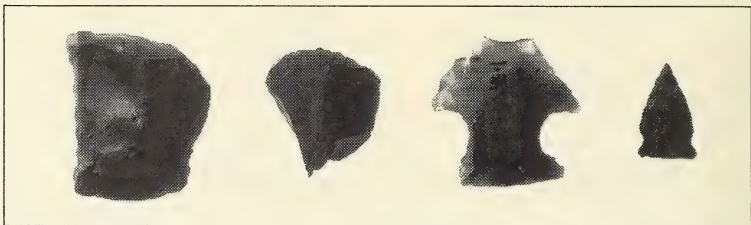
Glacial gravel formations contain many different types of rocks; but only some were suitable for making stone tools. Quartzite, chert, mudstone, silicified wood and chalcedony are the best local types of rocks for stone tool making. Their properties allowed the tool maker to control the removal of stone flakes to make and shape the tool. In the Edmonton region, approximately



A quartzite biface or knife, from the Strathcona archaeological site (from Pyszczyk, 1985).

71% of all stone tools found are made from quartzite. It is one of the most abundant rocks in the underlying gravel formations of the Edmonton area; probably this is the main reason it was used so often to make stone tools.

Prehistoric people used many types of stone tools in the Edmonton area. These tools were all made by removing stone flakes from a large piece of rock to thin and shape it. Points for some weapons, such as the spear, atlatl and arrow, changed in shape through time, and performed very specific functions. There were stone knives for cutting, projectile points for piercing, stone scrapers for scraping wood and hide, drills and awls for punching hide and bark. Large stone mauls were used for pounding, and there were large crude chopping tools. Some tools, such as the scrapers and mauls did not change much throughout the prehistoric period.



Prehistoric stone scrapers and projectile points found at the Strathcona archaeological site (from Pyszczyk, 1985).

Native people were highly skilled craftsmen and very knowledgeable about the available raw material in their areas. They also made tools from bone and wood, but these materials do not preserve very well and, thus, little is known about these prehistoiric tools.

Integrating Edmonton's Prehistoric Archaeological Evidence

Each particular archaeological site, its contents, the geological and biological information of the area, provide certain facts about the prehistory of the Greater Edmonton Area. But, archaeologists do not always consider each site or the evidence it contains separately, ignoring all the others. They combine different types of evidence from all the sites to create a much broader picture of prehistoric human habitation and land use of an area. It has taken over 30 years to collect the archaeological information from Edmonton's archaeological sites, and much still needs to be done. However, a picture of how Native peoples used the land is beginning to emerge.

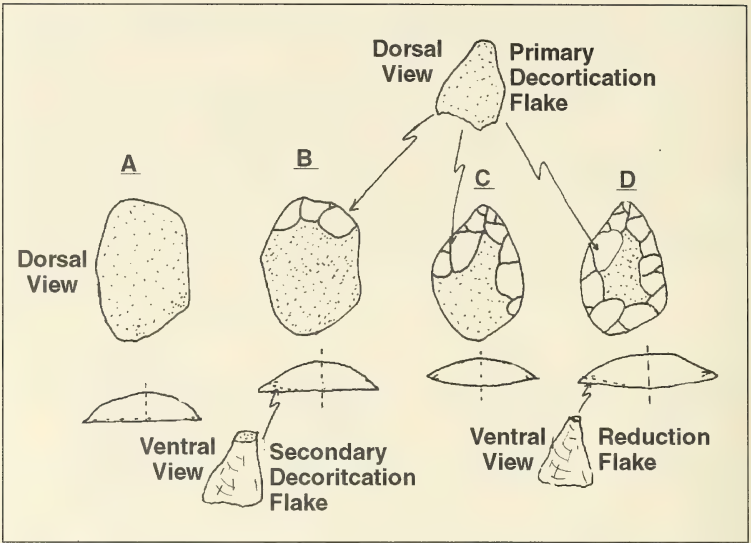
The Native people who lived in the Edmonton area depended on the natural resources that were scattered throughout their region. Some resources became available in large quantities during certain times of the year. For example, small family groups might move near spawning streams in the spring to trap large numbers of fish, then move elsewhere at the end of the summer to gather berries, or to intercept game animals. At each of these locations they would make, use, and repair their stone and bone implements, often leaving evidence of their activities lying on the ground. For hundreds of generations Native people moved to certain camping areas

at specific times of the year building up the archaeological record. This pattern was known as the seasonal round and is common among northern Native peoples.

Because the types and concentrations of resources differed in each area, some camping areas were utilized more intensively, sometimes by more people. In the Edmonton area, we see many small archaeological sites and a few very large ones. And, because each size of site may have performed a different function, the composition and relative importance of certain stone tools may also be somewhat different. This seems to be the pattern that is emerging in the Edmonton area when we examine the evidence from all the archaeological sites. The Strathcona archaeological site and the Stony Plain quarry site are very large, compared to the hundreds of other smaller sites in areas such as Riverbend. Archaeologists believe that the large sites were extremely important in the seasonal round, and were revisited on a regular basis. In other areas, such as Riverbend, it was not as important to camp at exactly the same spot all the time, thereby producing a pattern of many smaller archaeological sites scattered throughout the area.

But, why did Native people continually come to the Strathcona site (and perhaps also the Stony Plain site) for thousands of years? That question is more difficult to answer. One theory is that both sites contained critical resources that were difficult to find elsewhere in the area. The archaeological evidence does suggest that at both sites there are good exposures of raw materials for making stone tools. However, what is not certain is whether there are other areas along the North Saskatchewan River where there are equally good exposures and sources of stone raw materials. If there aren't, then this could be the chief reason why these two sites were visited so often and became so large over time. An alternate theory suggests that both sites contained numerous essential raw resources all in the same locality; good exposures of suitable stone provided only one reason why Native people often camped there. It will take a great deal more research before one of these theories is eventually accepted.

Based on the differences in the composition of the stone tool assemblages and the need for prehistoric Native peoples to continually move and utilize the resources of a large area, it is possible that the prehistoric archaeological sites in the area were visited by the same groups of Native people. Each locality, and its accompanying camp site, may have served a somewhat different function. For example, the large archaeological sites, such as Strathcona, contain relatively more evidence of early stages of stone tool production than the smaller sites. That evidence comes primarily by comparing the ratio of different types of stone flakes to one another. Flakes removed in the early stages of tool manufacture (i.e., called 'primary' and 'secondary' decortication flakes) occur six times more often at the Strathcona site than flakes removed during the latter stages (called 'tertiary' or 'reduction' flakes) of stone tool manufacture. This pattern is almost the opposite at many of the Riverbend sites. The smaller sites in the Riverbend area contain relatively more evidence of later stages of tool production and repair. These were briefly occupied small camps where specialized activities, such as kills or butchering of game animals, took place. This is the kind of pattern you might expect, if the Strathcona site was used more for raw



Simplified illustration of a reductive stone tool technology, removing stone flakes to thin and shape it into a tool. Note the difference in the amount of cortex (the outer surface of the rock) that each flake contains, allowing archaeologists to identify what stage in the reduction sequence it represents (from Pyszczyk, 1985).

material extraction and initial stages of stone tool manufacture, and less as a staging area for hunting where tools were being finished or repaired such as the Prosser site.

Currently, these remain as theories of possible prehistoric Native land use patterns in the Greater Edmonton Area. Which theory will eventually prevail can only be decided with more research and collection of data. This line inquiry demonstrates how important even examination of the waste stone flakes becomes in evaluating these theories, and how more than one archaeological site, including the very small, sometimes apparently minor archaeological sites, is important for these investigations.

FIRST EUROPEANS: THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE FUR TRADE

This is described to be a rich and plentiful Country, abounding with all kinds of animals especially Beavers & Otters, which are said to be so numerous that the Women & Children kill them with Sticks and Hatchets.

(Duncan McGillivray, of the North West Company describing the Edmonton area, 1794)

Occupation of the Edmonton area by Native people and the promise of rich fur resources drew the attention of the first Europeans who established their fur trade posts here. By the 1780s, after realizing that many of the Alberta Indians were unwilling to come to Hudson Bay to trade, the fur trade companies began to establish posts inland, primarily along the major rivers which were the chief transportation routes into the west. Eventually, the traders chose Edmonton to establish a fur trade post, because apparently the area teemed with resources.

The North West Company constructed Fort Augustus I along the North bank of the North Saskatchewan River, near Fort Saskatchewan, in 1795. The Hudson's Bay Company soon followed and erected Edmonton House I. These posts, known as the Fortes des Prairies, served the Woodland and Plains Indians and were close to the plains buffalo herds. Supplies from these posts helped support other posts located in the fur-rich, but food poor, areas of the Canadian northwest. These first forts were only occupied until 1801. Over the next 30 years, Fort Edmonton was moved several times:

1801 - 1810: Fort Augustus/Edmonton II, Rosedale Flats;

1810 - 1813: Near Smoky Lake, Alberta;

1813 - 1830: Rosedale Flats;

1830 - 1907: Alberta Legislature grounds.

At one point the Hudson's Bay Company London Committee became so confused as to the whereabouts of Fort Edmonton, that they ordered the traders to, "*Stop moving Fort Edmonton about, or adopt a new name for each location.*"

The fifth and last Fort Edmonton, was built on the Alberta Legislature grounds by Chief Factor John Rowand, after the Rosedale Flats location flooded in 1825 and 1829. Rowand wanted to call the new fort, Fort Sanspareil (Fort Without Equal), but was overruled by the Hudson's Bay Company London Committee. Just imagine if the London Committee had not told Rowand to change the name of the fort back to "Edmonton." The capital city of Alberta might have been called "Sanspareil."

The archaeology of the fur trade adds fascinating details to the story of the first Europeans in the region. The archaeological remains are combined with the available historic documents and photographs to examine the lifestyles of these traders. Even though the traders kept records, these were more accounting records than anything else; often they said nothing of the everyday lives of the employees or what the forts looked like. Some fur trade companies, such as the Canadian-based North West Company, left few

written records behind. And often the journal entries are so cryptic that they obscure the real facts. For example, John MacDonald of Garth's statement that an XY Company fort was, "on the other side of us," does little to help identify the exact locations of the forts. The archaeological record is the only remaining source of information about these early traders.

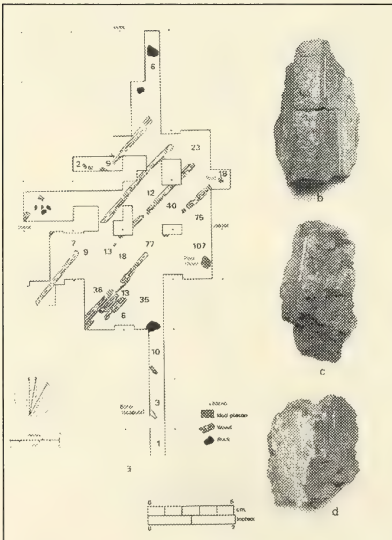
All of these forts, and many others along the North Saskatchewan River, were built on the north river bank. The decision to build on the north bank was mainly owing to the tensions existing between European fur traders and the sometimes warlike Plains Indians. The river was a natural barrier and a means of protecting Europeans somewhat from hostility. In 1800, James Bird, in charge of Edmonton House, noted that the Blackfoot Indians were assembling a war party on the opposite bank of the river near the fort. Nothing ever came of this threat, but the position of the forts along the river resulted from these occasional tensions between Europeans and the Plains Indians.

Forts Edmonton/Augustus I

Archaeological investigations have been undertaken at each of the Fort Edmonton sites, to varying degrees. In 1967 archaeologists attempted to establish the location of the first Hudson's Bay Company Fort Edmonton.

Even such an apparently simple objective was fraught with difficulties. Archaeologists found three fur trade sites, and the historic documents, although vague about the precise location of this post, did indicate that six fur trading establishments may have been constructed on the north river flats near Fort Saskatchewan.

Archaeologists uncovered the remains of a single large building at one of the sites, consisting of floor timbers, vertical posts, and large quantities of burned mud plaster. Interpretation of, and comparison to, other fur trade structural remains, indicates that the building was constructed using the common post-in-ground log building method. Floor joists rested directly on the earth. Based on this building construction method, and the remains of a Hudson's Bay "beaver" button, archaeologists think that this site was the 1795 Hudson's Bay Company

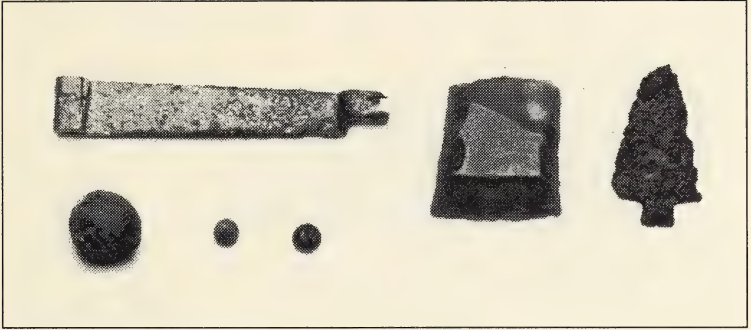


Mud chinking and building floor joist remains from Edmonton/Augustus I. Clay chinking for filling the cracks between building logs was very important; mud sources had to be nearby or else the fort could not be built (from Kidd, 1987).

Edmonton House I.

Artifacts, typical of this early period of European history, consisted of goods traded to the Plains Indians as well as articles used by the Company employees. Most articles, such as the glass trade beads, ceramics, clay pipes and glass containers, had to be shipped up-river from Hudson Bay or from eastern Canada. The hand-forged nails and metal arrowheads were made by the fort smithy, Gilbert Laughton.

Stone tools and flakes, similar to those used by Native people for



*Eighteenth century fur trade artifacts found at Fort Edmonton/Augustus I.
Can you guess what they are, before reading further? (from Kidd, 1987).*

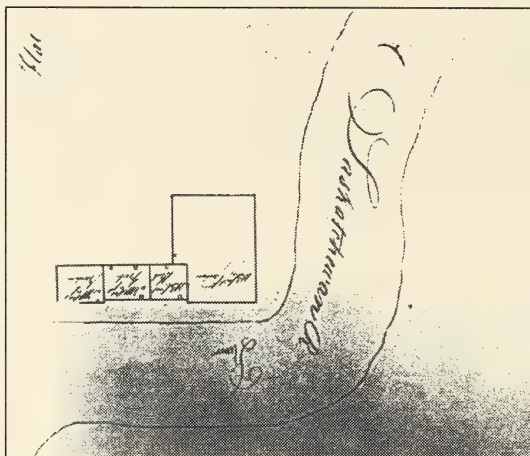
thousands of years, were also found at the site and other areas of the river flats. They may have been used by Native people at the fort, or they could be from a former prehistoric camp site and may have been mixed with European fur trade articles.

{Artifacts in the above illustration are from top left to bottom right: gun main spring; gunflint; metal trade arrow head; lead musket ball; lead shot}

Forts Edmonton/Augustus II & IV

Even less is known archaeologically about Forts Edmonton/Augustus II and IV, located near or under the Walterdale power plant. Pinpointing the positions of the forts on the ground, even with the available documentary data, is very difficult. While the documents clearly show the fort located on the edge of the river bank, there is no modern reference point to determine their exact locations. The first map, drawn by David Thompson in 1801, shows the position of the two forts, and their respective gardens near the river edge on a flat level plain. There is no scale on Thompson's map, and it is evident that the bends in the river on the map are not scaled drawings. This location is believed to be on the present-day Rosssdale flats, near the Walterdale bridge.

Thompson's map and a drawing of the forts in 1813 show the Hudson's Bay Company and North West Company posts together, separated only by a



A sketch of Fort Edmonton/Augustus II by David Thompson, 1801. The top of the page is north (HBCA).

fence or palisade. This construction pattern was quite common during the early fur trade period when potential hostilities with the Plains Indians required such close relations between the companies for defense, even though they were fierce rivals.

Although only very limited archaeological investigations have been conducted at the site, they do indicate that parts of the fort and a graveyard to the



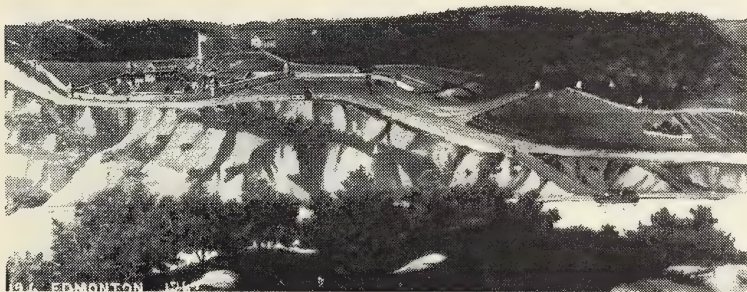
Archaeological remains of Fort Edmonton/Augustus I & IV and human burials beside the palisade pales (Archaeological Survey, PMA).

west are still intact under approximately a metre of river silts that have been deposited by flooding. Palisade remnants and human remains have been uncovered by recent construction on the flats near the Rosedale Power Plant. One line of palisade pales (stockades of the fort) are of particular interest because they provide us with a reference point from which to position the forts on the flats. The forts ran parallel and perpendicular to the edge of the north river bank, instead of being oriented to Magnetic North. It is all too apparent that much of this early part of our fur trade history has been destroyed.

Fort Edmonton V

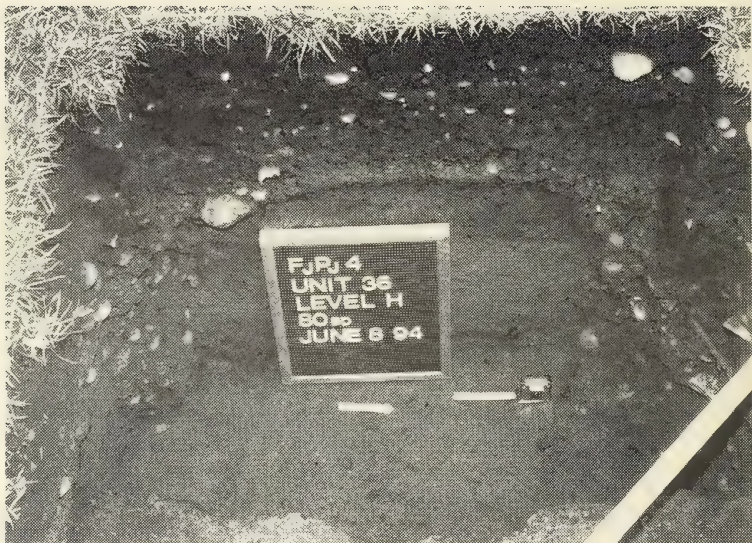
This fort became one of the most important fur trade sites west of Fort Garry. Built by John Rowand, the fort covered a large area of over 10,000 square metres in its heyday. The layout changed considerably through time. Archaeologists conducted preliminary investigations at the site in 1977. In 1992, the Provincial Museum of Alberta and the University of Alberta began more extensive investigations that continued through the summer of 1995. Surprisingly, even though the grounds have been disturbed extensively over the last century, archaeological remains are still intact beneath them. The results of these excavations, together with the available documentary information, have helped considerably to determine the layout and position of the site and the lifestyle of its occupants.

Analysis of the data gathered from archaeological investigations at Fort



An early painting of Fort Edmonton V, c.1870. Note the cemetery and cross on the river flats below the fort. Edmonton/Augustus II and IV may lie immediately east of the cemetery (PAA B.6568).

Edmonton will take years to complete. However, some very interesting facts are already emerging. Looking at the natural and cultural soil layers exposed in one of the excavation units, what do we learn about the human history of this site? The site sits on the second highest river terrace. Approximately 1.5 metres below the surface, there are unsorted sands and gravels deposited



The natural and cultural stratigraphy of the upper terrace, Alberta Legislature grounds (Archaeological Survey, PMA).



Evidence of prehistoric campsite beneath the remains of Fort Edmonton V. A corner-notched prehistoric projectile point in the hand of its finder, Larry Rodewolt, who participated in the public dig, 1995. (Archaeological Survey, PMA).

by the glaciers and on top of them, silts deposited by flooding episodes. On top of these silts there is a thin dark brown organic layer, known as a paleosol (buried soil horizon). This layer was made by organic materials being deposited on the ground surface over thousands of years.

Archaeologists have recovered quartzite stone flakes, and a stone projectile point on this organic surface. Although the stone projectile point could not be dated, it does resemble other dated prehistoric points found further north; it is good evidence that prehistoric people camped on this high terrace overlooking the river

perhaps thousands of years before John Rowand erected the first building of his new *Fort Without Equal*.

On top of this organic layer and prehistoric remains, occur the archaeological remains of the 1830s Fort Edmonton V. Composed of organic materials mixed with sand and gravel, these deposits contain thousands of artifacts and pieces of bone thrown away or lost by the fort employees. Over the four years of investigations, archaeologists excavated less than 100 square metres of the fort, recovering approximately 55,000 artifacts. An average of 550 artifacts per square metre was deposited over the 80 years of fort habitation. Because the fort covers over 10,000 square metres, it is estimated that there may be more than 5,550,000 artifacts beneath the Legislature grounds.

Although a lot of refuse was probably lost when it was thrown over the river bank, the tremendous amount of material left at the site is a good representation of fur trade material culture. These artifacts are all packed into about 20 - 30 centimetres of sediments, below the more recent upper levels consisting of landscape fill brought in after the fort was abandoned. This fill contains an array of artifacts that reflect our recent culture and activities on the Legislature grounds - gum and gum wrappers, cigarette butts, buttons, rings and many plastic things which will become the archaeological remains for future generations of archaeologists to examine.

Some of the deeper fort features cut through the older, lower sediments and layers. These include palisades, trenches, cellars, and privies. Palisades were erected in narrow, one and one-half metre deep trenches called footer trenches. Archaeologists located footer trenches, representing the west, north and east palisades, enabling them to determine the precise location of



Footer trenches, marked by the dark stain, for the fort palisade and trenches to hold the inner partitioning fences (Archaeological Survey, PMA).

the fort. These palisades often blew down and had to be rebuilt during the life of the fort. Many inner fences were also constructed using smaller pickets placed in narrow trenches; these fences partitioned the fort residents from one another and from the livestock. Precise mapping of these trenches and comparison to the remaining maps of the fort, allow archaeologists to examine the changes that occurred at the site over its 80 year history.

The archaeological remains and documentary information attest to the relative importance of Fort Edmonton V in the western Canadian fur trade. In terms of size, Fort Edmonton was bigger than any other fort in the Saskatchewan River District. Living space for both its servants and its officers was considerably greater than at other fur trade posts of the period. Rowand's Big House was grandiose in size and furnishings, a fact which according to George Simpson then governor of the Hudson' Bay Company, impressed the Native people who came to the fort to trade. The archaeological evidence indicates considerable manpower was spent rebuilding and repairing the fort, owing to its prominence and importance. Fort Edmonton reached its largest size by the early 1860s which, to a large degree, reflected the height of the fur trade in western Canada.

By 1907, the Hudson's Bay Company abandoned Fort Edmonton. The city of Edmonton occupied two of the large warehouses for a period of time after this date, turning them into telephone offices. During investigations in this area of the site, archaeologists exposed the remains of one building and evidence of its later function as a telephone office. One area contained thousands of pieces of ceramic insulators used for the telephone systems and operations. These archaeological remains, and others in the lower river valley, are the physical signs that mark the end of the fur trade era and the beginnings of settlement, urbanism, and industrialization – all of which have left an archaeological record.

Do the remains of Fort Edmonton still live on somewhere? Certainly, the archaeological record beneath the present Legislature grounds will survive for many more years, and will be available to provide us with important information about the fort. One of the most common questions people ask about the fort is, what happened to the remaining buildings when they were finally torn down in 1915? According to available records, some of the building timbers were salvaged by Edmontonians who reused them in other structures. Although Alberta Public Works at the time promised the citizens of Edmonton that it would store the building timbers for posterity, this never actually occurred. The remains of Fort Edmonton were used in private houses in Edmonton, to build a barn near Ellerslie, and as firewood by residents living on the south side of the river.



The large warehouses on the west side of Fort Edmonton come down, 1915 (CEA EA-10-78).

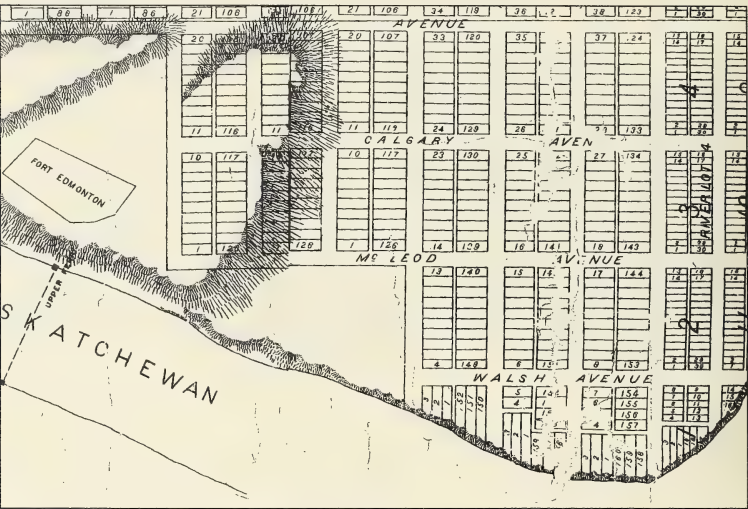
URBAN ARCHAEOLOGY

Most of us do not connect Edmonton's and Strathcona's urban and industrial development with archaeology, since it is so recent. However, in the Edmonton area, particularly in the river valley near the old fort, there exists a rich, yet largely untapped archaeological record from the end of the nineteenth century and early twentieth century. The fur trade and prehistoric archaeological records are enormous, in terms of sheer numbers of artifacts and complexity of structural remains. By comparison, the size and complexity of the urban archaeological record, and its associated documents is staggering. The archaeology of urbanism is an exciting discipline in North America, and the archaeological remains associated with urban Edmonton present some interesting insights into Edmonton's urban development. The urban record consists of early settlement plans, industrial and residential archaeological sites, and major public works.

Rossdale as an Archaeological Artifact

Archaeologists treat the landscape as an artifact because it has been modified by humans. The organization and utilization of space by humans is the product of economic, social and political decisions. The urban landscape is usually extensively modified in very short periods of time – a pattern which has some interesting interpretive potential. Take, for example, the community of Rossdale on the river flats, named after Donald Ross, a prospector who settled in Edmonton. The flats represent some of the earliest beginnings of settlement in Edmonton, and were closely connected

to the early fur trade. It was common for Indians and Metis to camp on the river flats when trading at the fort. Louis Riel's grandfather, Jean Pierre Lagimodiere, while employed by the Hudson's Bay Company, settled somewhere on the river flats. While serving first as the site of the early fur trade posts, the Hudson's Bay race track, the cemetery, and camping area, Rossdale eventually contained many residential and commercial enterprises by the 1880s.



The 1885 legal survey of Rossdale (City of Edmonton Archives).

The layout of Rossdale, as in other communities in North America, became more standardized as the purpose for land acquisition shifted from individual use to investment and speculation. The first legal survey map, compiled in 1885, divided much of the City into regularly laid out blocks, including the Rossdale flats. During the fur trade period, prior to extensive settlement, Rossdale and much of the area surrounding Fort Edmonton contained an irregular array of pathways and trails connecting to other forts and to the fort's hinterlands.

Equally visible in Rossdale is the layout of blocks and private properties relative to the river, maintaining some of the characteristics of an older river lot system that was very important in other Metis and French Canadian river communities in Canada. Each piece of land near the river was oriented roughly perpendicular to the river, ensuring that the owner had river frontage. River travel, prior to the arrival of the Canadian Pacific Railway line in Strathcona in 1888, was the major form of transportation in the Canadian West. The close proximity of lots in Rossdale to the edge of the river, provided some residents and businessmen with access to this important transportation link. As the river became less important, these river lots also were valued less, and eventually eliminated in the new city plan.

Walterdale Flats

To some degree, the Walterdale flats, located immediately across the river from Fort Edmonton, are similar to Rossdale; they also contain good examples of urban archaeological remains. These comprise the Pollard Brickyards, Bedard Tannery, and early private residences. Both the industrial sites and private residences are typical of urban archaeological sites – they contain high artifact frequencies, cover large areas and often are associated with architectural and structural remains of immense proportions. All factors are the product of urbanism.



The remains of one of the brick kilns at the Pollard Brickyards eroding out of the side of the road (Archaeological Survey, PMA).

The domestic refuse of the early urban residences is different from refuse found at the earlier fur trade sites. Access to goods was more restricted during the fur trade when the Hudson's Bay Company controlled the shipment of goods inland. This monopoly is quite evident when examining the ceramic tablewares of the company. By 1830, the Hudson's Bay Company acquired almost all of its domestic tablewares from the Spode-Copeland Company in England. Its employees had limited opportunity to acquire other tablewares. At Fort Edmonton, archaeologists have found primarily Spode-Copeland ceramic patterns. At the later urban sites in the valley, residents were using many different types of ceramics. They had greater access to domestic markets than either the Hudson's Bay Company employees or residents in other parts of Alberta.

To the west of the Walterdale residential sites lies the Pollard Brickyard site, operated by the Pollard Brothers between 1898-1915. The Pollard brothers supplied bricks for construction of numerous buildings in the Edmonton area (for example, St. Anthony's and Strathcona Baptist churches). The archaeological remains of these brickyards are extensive and have not been thoroughly investigated. The brickyards, as well as other

industrial sites dating to the end of the nineteenth century in Rosedale, Walterdale and Strathcona, are an interesting counterpoint to greater access to outside markets and articles by the residents of Edmonton. The potential was there for local industries to develop local markets in the larger urban settlements, such as Edmonton. The exact impact of local industry on local markets, however, is unknown. In the case of the Pollard Brothers and local brick makers, what proportion of their products were used in the construction of buildings in Edmonton, as opposed to imported bricks? Investigation of this ratio of local to imported goods in urban centres such as Edmonton, compared to its hinterlands, requires archaeological samples and continued research and preservation of early urban sites in the community.

Relics of early urban development still lie buried beneath the streets of Edmonton. Continual disturbance to these areas endangers many archaeological remains related to the early parts of the city. Old

underground water and sewer systems in Strathcona were sometimes buried and paved over. A manhole cover found near the old bus barns near 83rd avenue and 103rd street, dated 1905, is a relic of some of Strathcona's first public works. Wooden water lines which date back to the turn of the century, are still used in some parts of the city and are only recently being replaced by modern plastic lines. All are relics of the early growth of Edmonton and the investment by its residents into public works. These are the archaeological remains that



The manhole cover found in Old Strathcona, dated 1905 (Archaeological Survey, PMA).

represent Edmonton's more recent history.

II A SHORT WALKING TOUR

1 - GRANDIN LRT STATION

The tour begins at the Grandin LRT Station at 98 Ave and 110th Street. Looking south you see the uppermost terrace of the North Saskatchewan River. This terrace is dated by bison bones recovered from a five metre thick section of bedded sands overlying gravel deposits. This section was exposed during the construction of the underground parking facility for the Provincial Legislature. The bone yielded conventional C-14 dates of 10,740

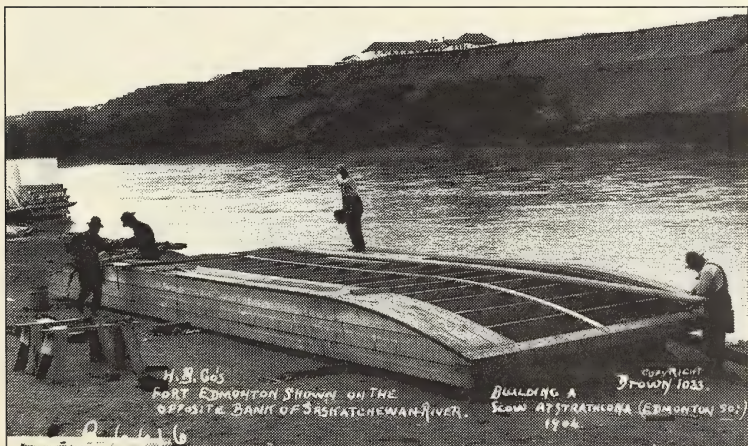
+ 470 and 11,345 + 420 years before present. Because of erosion, only a few of these very old terraces remain preserved in the valley. The younger, well preserved terraces are located along the current flood plain and reveal sediments that span the last 8,000 years. Despite the great age of the upper terrace, its near-surface deposits contain evidence of more recent camps when, for example, the Blackfoot came to trade at Fort Edmonton. Two decades ago, city workers discovered an infant burial in a one metre deep waterline trench near the Grandin LRT station. Historic fur trade materials have also been recovered in many areas surrounding the former Fort Edmonton, including Ezio Faraone Park.

EZIO FARAONE PARK - 2

From this vantage point you get a complete panorama of the river valley. There is a pattern to the location of archaeological sites in the river valley, based on some very fundamental human needs. Basic requirements for most prehistoric human habitation include a location that is well drained and sheltered, relatively flat, and preferably, with a sunny, southern exposure. To the west, the Victoria park flats possess all these characteristics. When you look at the opposite bank of the river, see how sloping terrain, northern exposure, limited drainage and dense tree cover make that side of the river less desirable for human habitation. The desirable qualities of the Victoria Park area were also recognized by early Euro-Canadian settlers and, in 1905, George Sandison built a large brick factory. The clay pit for this industry is still visible as a large depression behind the golf course driving range.

The River

The North Saskatchewan River winding its way through Edmonton has



Workers constructing a scow on the John Walter river flats, across the river from Fort Edmonton V, 1904 (PAA B.6616).

been the thread linking the people to the land for countless centuries. Once cut down to its present levels, it exposed seams of coal, clay, gravels and sands, and gold. Look downriver towards Rossdale; just around the bend of the river, a major gold dredging operation scoured the gravel bars for gold prior to the turn of the twentieth century. It is reported that four million dollars in fine gold dust was taken from the river by 1894. The gold bearing portion of the river stretches for 100 hundred miles above and below Edmonton and occurs primarily on the river gravel bars. On a warm, dry sunny day in late summer when the river is low and the gravel bars are exposed, you can still see people panning for gold near Groat Bridge.

The river was also the major source of transportation and shipping before the railway finally reached Edmonton. First came Native birch bark canoes, followed by the enormous fur trade brigade canoes. Then came the York boats, many of which were built at Fort Edmonton. Finally, the large river steamers paddled up and down the river moving people and supplies. From this spot, look across the river toward the Kinsmen fieldhouse; there lie the remains of an old sternwheeler, the City of Edmonton, which still sticks out of the river when the water is low. This boat was built by John Walter. John Walter constructed many york boats, scows and sternwheelers on these flats. Wooden piles, which may be remnants of piers, can also be seen along the south banks when the waters are low. There were at least four or five piers on both sides of the river along the Walterdale and Rossdale



The remains of the City of Edmonton at low water along the south bank of the river across from the Alberta Legislature grounds (CEA).



The High Level Bridge under construction with Fort Edmonton V in the background, 1912 (PAA B.6596).

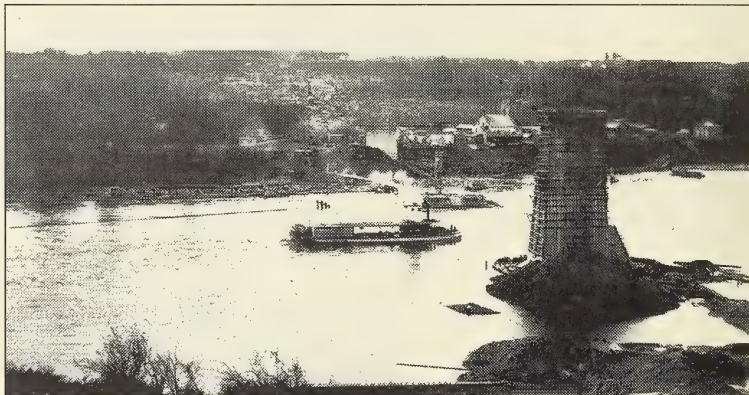
High Level Bridge, North End

As Strathcona on the south side of the river and Edmonton on the north side of the river grew, more transportation connections were needed and the first bridges were built. From your current vantage point, the High Level Bridge dominates the view of the river valley. This impressive structure, built between 1910 - 1913, provided a high level crossing of the valley to overcome the formidable barrier that the deep river valley posed. Although the low level bridge was built in 1902, the very first motor car in Edmonton could not ascend the steep river valley slopes, and a high level bridge was the only way of ensuring that this new mode of transportation would be useful. The completion of the High Level Bridge finally concluded the long standing and vociferous debate over railway supremacy between the rival centres of Edmonton and Strathcona. It was designed for wheeled traffic on the bottom deck and rail traffic on the upper deck. At the insistence of the Mayor of Edmonton, the bridge roadbed was built wide enough to allow for two hayracks to pass one another. This turned out to be a visionary move, for it insured that the bridge could accommodate two lanes of modern traffic.

In 1995, the bridge was completely refurbished. During initial planning for the LRT system, it was hoped that the upper deck of the High Level bridge could be used. However, metallurgical testing of the bridge superstructure revealed that the steel was too brittle to withstand the

vibrations of the high speed LRT and a new bridge was constructed. During the construction of the LRT bridge, a road cut exposed a profile of the river floodplain sediments, plainly visible on the south bank of the river.

Along the south bank of the river, there was an extensive industrial complex that included the John Walter Lumber Mill, Bedard's Tannery and Pollard's Brickyard. The road cut mentioned earlier exposed both historic and prehistoric archaeological deposits on the floodplain. This profile also reveals a thick, continuous layer of Mazama Ash (deposited by a volcanic eruption approximately 6,800 years ago) which is plainly visible even at this distance. Detailed descriptions of the historic remains are presented elsewhere in this booklet.



View to the south bank of the river, showing the Pollard Brickyard and Beddard Tannery (PAA A.3760).

3 - FORT EDMONTON V (LEGISLATURE GROUNDS)

The Fort and the Grounds

Proceed to the south Legislature grounds and you are standing on the site of the last of the Hudson's Bay Company Edmonton V, built by Chief Factor John Rowand, in 1830. The Hudson's Bay Company operated Fort Edmonton until 1907 and in 1915, shortly after the completion of the Legislature Building, the fort was demolished.

There is virtually no sign that a large fur trade post, employing nearly 150 people, once stood on this beautiful location. Using photographs, historic maps and archaeological remains, we will briefly walk the grounds to determine where the fort and its buildings once stood. First, walk to the northwest corner of the fort. This spot is located along the sidewalk above and northwest of the lawn bowling green and is now marked by a bronze plaque.

The plaque shows the plan of the fort as it looked in the 1860s at the height of the western fur trade, and its location relative to the lawn bowling



The location of Fort Edmonton V on the Alberta Legislature grounds at its peak, 1860s.

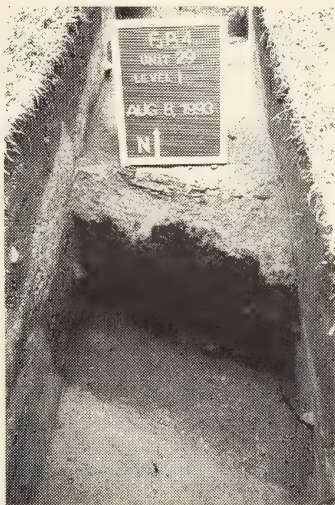


Blockhouses were a common form of defense at fur trade forts in the west.

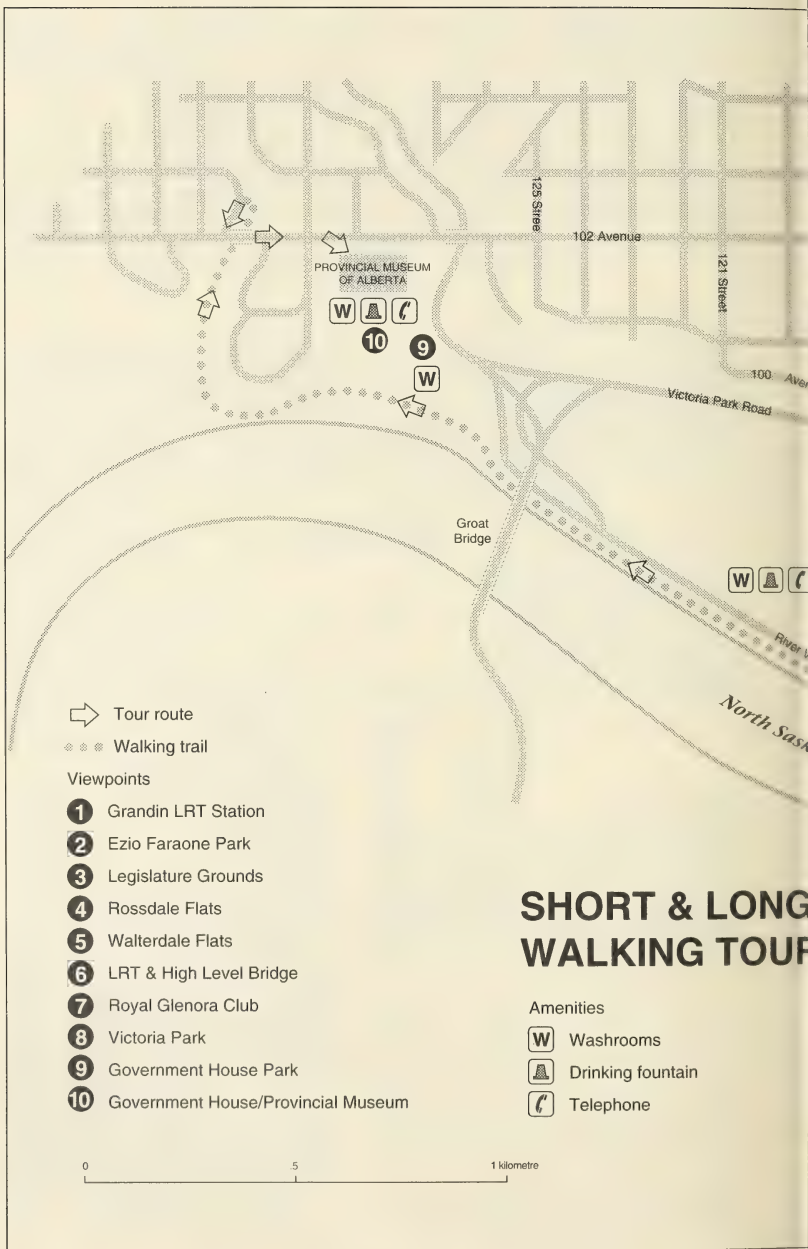
This photograph is of the southwest blockhouse at Fort Edmonton V, and some of the buildings inside the fort.

This corner is near the edge of the road coming up from the Royal Glenora Club.

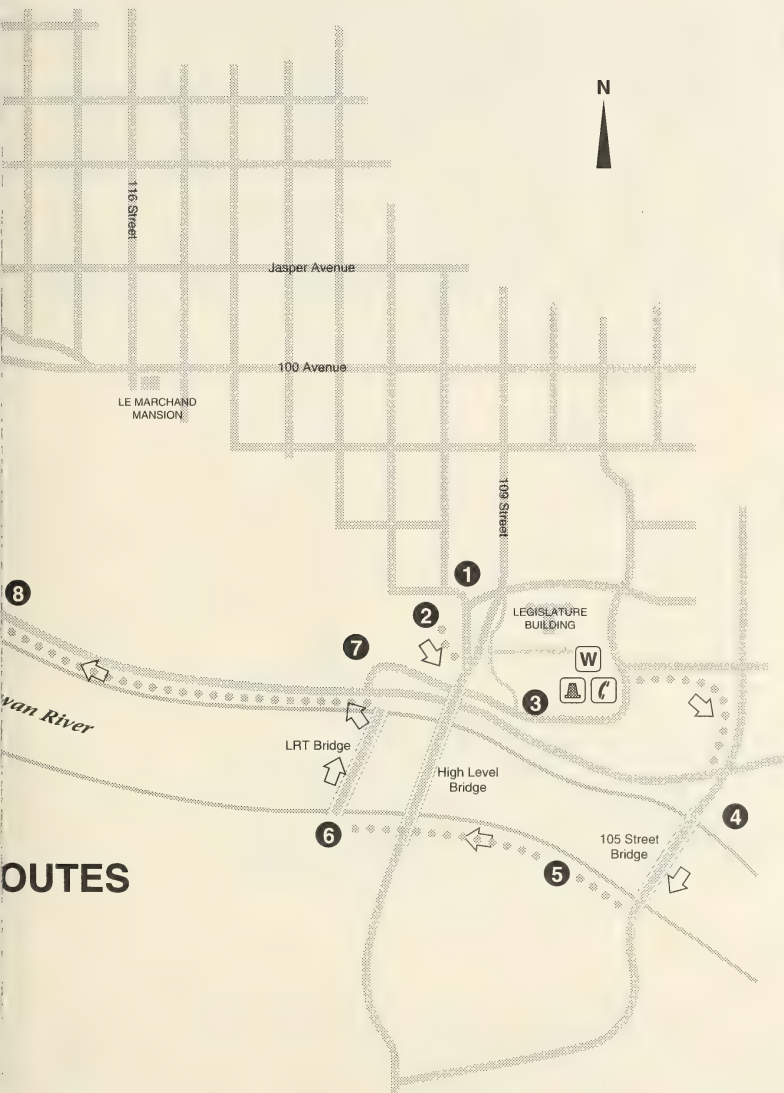
From where you are standing at the northwest corner of the fort, look toward the High Level Bridge to find the position of this corner (R.C.M.P. Museum).



North Palisade footer trench and wooden palisade pales intact in the trench fill.



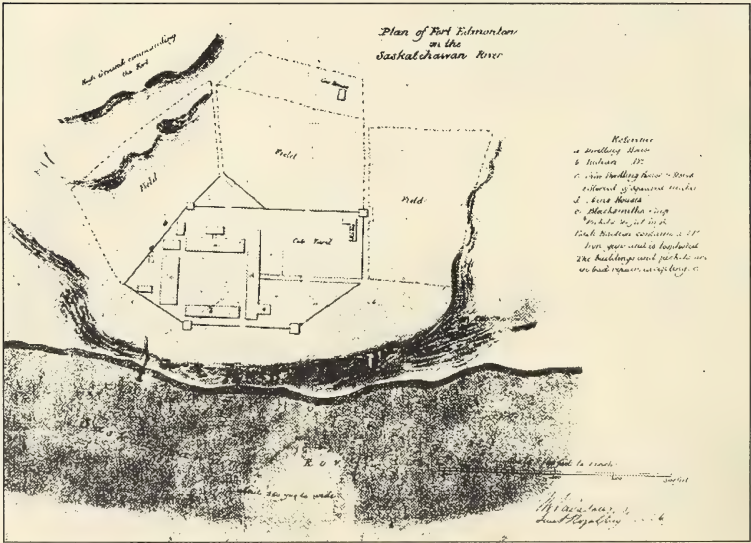
SHORT & LONG WALKING TOUR



green and skating rink. From this point the fort remains run toward the skating rink and cover all of the lawn bowling green and most of the rink. This enormous area did not even enclose all buildings belonging to the Company.

Using old maps and photographs to guide them, archaeologists found the west and the north fort palisade footer trenches, that were about 50 centimetres wide and 1.5 metres deep; in places they still contained old rotted palisade posts. In dry periods, if you look down the line of the north wall of the fort toward the southeast corner of the skating rink, you will notice that the ground is slightly depressed and the grass grows better in this area.

The fort changed continually throughout its history. The earliest known map of the fort, compiled by English Royal Engineers in 1846, shows that it was much smaller and perhaps positioned differently on the grounds. If the northeast corner of the fort was in the same location as the 1860s fort, then the west point of the fort would have only reached slightly past the west edge of the lawn bowling green, near the lawn bowling club house.



Fort Edmonton, 1846 (HBCA G.1/192).

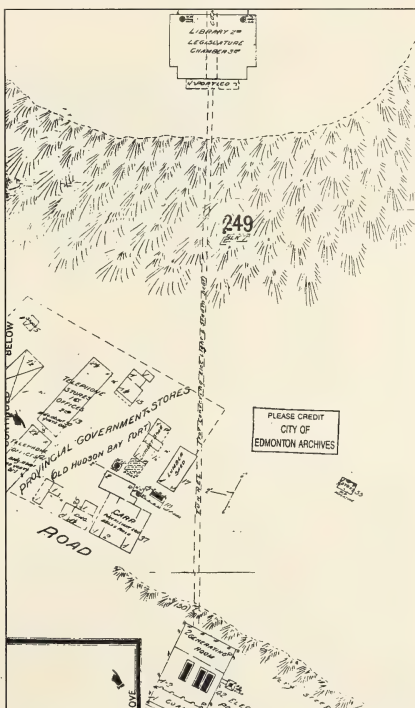
A later plan of the fort shows what buildings were left in 1913 and their relationship to the Legislature Building. There was no palisade, only a small picket fence that was placed in the original palisade trench. This may also be the plan that was used to place the National Historic Sites cairn on the northeast corner of the fort, since on this map, the corner is very close to that position.



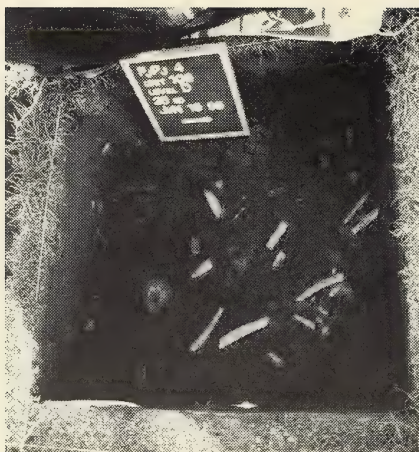
1902 photograph showing Richard Hardisty's Big House (on the far right side of the photograph) on the hill overlooking Fort Edmonton V (PAA B.6588).

Because of the extensive disturbance to the Legislature grounds since the fort was dismantled, shallow building remains were nearly all destroyed. All that remain are cellars, privies, and the footer trenches for the fort palisades. If you walk out behind the lawn bowling club house on the west side near the roadway, there is a slight depression in the road where the remains of a large cellar from the west warehouse were uncovered. Other wood remains related to this warehouse were also identified near the club house. They represent the wood building foundations that once supported these very large warehouses, which later became telephone offices for the City of Edmonton.

Extensive archaeological remains were also found near the southwest corner of the skating rink, by the water fountain along the road. In this spot were the married men's quarters and some working



A sketch of Fort Edmonton V during its final years, 1913. The fort is smaller and there are no more fortifications (CEA).



*Archaeological remains near the southwest corner of the skating rink
(Archaeological Survey, PMA).*

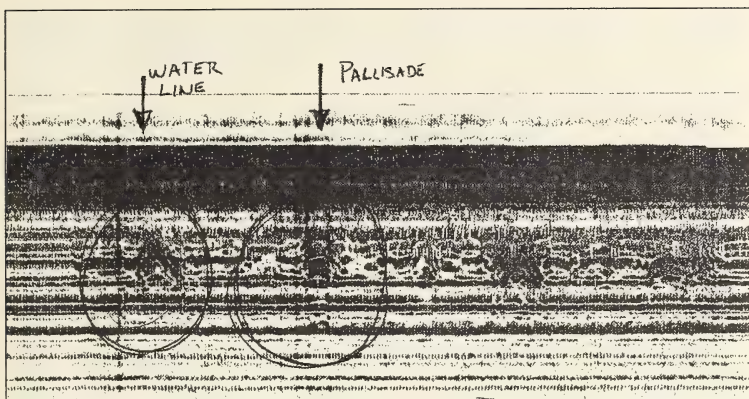
areas, such as the cooperage and boat building area. Some of the highest densities of artifacts were recovered there. In the southwest corner of the skating rink, hundreds of clay pipe stems and bowls were found in the picket fence trench fill. These clay pipes, known as cutties, were smoked by the men when working at the fort. Since this was a working area for many years, it is not surprising to find such high numbers of one of the most common, and most fragile, fur trade artifacts. If you walk to the southeast corner of the skating rink, you are very close to the east wall and northeast corner of the fort.

From this vantage point, look up toward the east annex of the Legislature Building and examine the 1902 photograph on the previous page. Chief Factor Richard Hardisty built his new Big House in approximately 1874 somewhere near this spot. This move outside of the protection of the fort walls was quite remarkable for the time period, since tensions between the traders and Native groups still occasionally occurred. It is uncertain whether any archaeological remains are preserved from these buildings or activities, due to their close proximity to the Legislature Building.

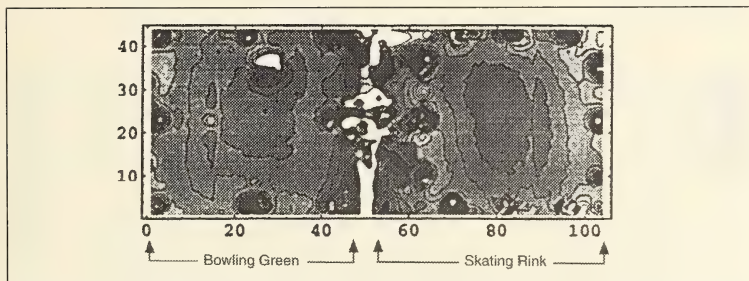
How Archaeologists See Beneath the Ground

Archaeologists apply methods from other disciplines to see what is beneath the surface of the ground. Some methods, such as walking over a site holding two copper coat hangers like dowsing rods or employing psychics to find remains, have no sound scientific basis. Other methods, such as ground penetrating radar and magnetometers are borrowed from geophysicists to see beneath the ground surface. Both methods were employed on the Fort Edmonton site and on the Rosedale flats to find certain types of archaeological remains.

Here is an image of what the ground penetrating radar saw when it was dragged over the north palisade line of Fort Edmonton. Ground penetrating radar sends radio pulses into the ground to measure electrical ground conductivity; these pulses return as echoes. Notice that when the instrument passed over the palisade trench and a recent water line trench, the resistance or conductivity of the ground was different, sending back a different echo. These echoes are then drawn on paper and show the position of the fort palisade trench. Sometimes, however, these graphs are difficult to interpret.



The ground beneath the Alberta Legislature grounds, near the north palisade, as seen by ground penetrating radar.



An example of a magnetometer contour map, showing degrees of magnetism on the Alberta Legislature grounds. The dark areas show high degrees of magnetism caused by electrical lights around the lawn bowling green and the skating rink. (Courtesy of Dr. Edo Nyland, Dept. of Physics, University of Alberta).

Total field proton magnetometers can also look beneath the ground. Geophysicists, from the University of Alberta, conducted an intensive survey over the Legislature grounds to measure differences in the susceptibility of materials beneath the ground to retain some of the earth's magnetism. Some objects or substrates, such as iron oxide, would have a high degree of magnetism. These differences in magnetism beneath the Legislature grounds are transferred into maps such as the one above showing where high magnetic anomalies occur. Some anomalies are related to fur trade archaeological remains; others are the product of recent events.

Over the River Bank

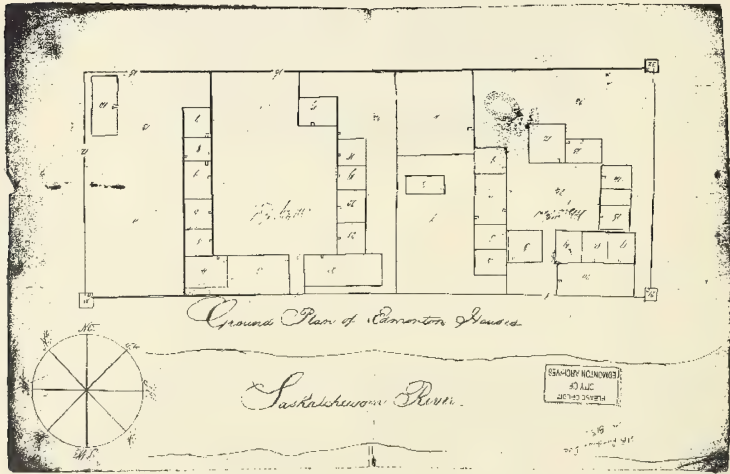
Unfortunately, parts of Fort Edmonton have been destroyed by later construction of the Power Plant and, possibly, the Canadian Northern

Railway line built in 1908. If you look over the edge of the bank, west of the Power Plant, you can still make out the railway bed. Some of the historic photographs also show York boats landing just beneath the fort. The men had to unload the goods and move them up this steep slope to the fort. This is likely one of the chief reasons why the traders initially built their forts on the lower river flats, which lessened the burden of moving goods to the forts.

4 - ROSSDALE FLATS

Rossdale Flats contain a variety of archaeological sites which are now largely obscured or partially destroyed. This is certainly true of the early community of Rossdale. Prominent among these sites are the early Forts Edmonton/Augustus, the Fort cemetery, and other activity areas associated with the later Fort Edmonton V. Native people also camped on the flats when visiting Fort Edmonton.

Archaeological remains of palisade posts of the west walls of the early forts occur immediately east of the Walterdale Bridge. Thus, most of these fort remains now lie in the vicinity of the power plant. An 1870 painting of this area indicates that it was then used as a crop field by the Hudson's Bay Company.



The layout of the North West Company and Hudson's Bay Company Forts Edmonton/Augustus IV, 1814. If the west palisade of the North West Company fort lies immediately east of the bridge and road, then most of the fort now lies beneath the power plant. The north & south palisade is approximately 111 metres long. North is at the top of the page (HBCA).



The Rossdale flats during the latter half of the nineteenth century with Fort Edmonton V on top of the hill. The York boat and Red River cart were the major modes of transportation and movement of supplies in the Canadian west (GA NA1408-4).

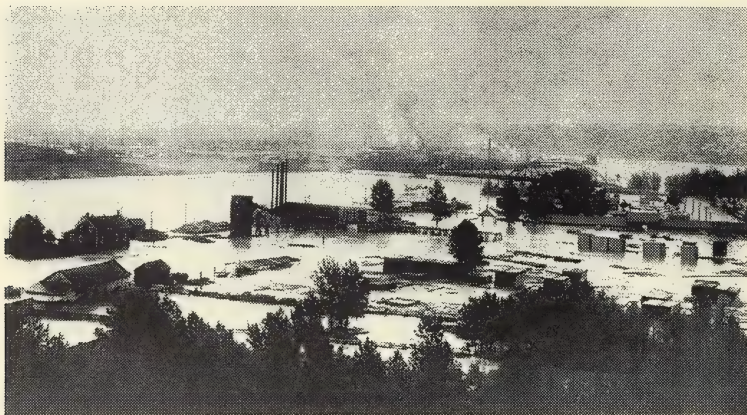
The 1870 painting also shows that this area of the flats contains a major cemetery, perhaps established as early as during the occupation of Fort Edmonton/Augustus II and IV; it was used until the late nineteenth century. The cemetery is located immediately west of the old forts, beneath the intersection of 105th street and River Valley Road. There are over 200 Euro-Canadian and Native interments in this area. Although some of the interments were relocated, the majority are buried beneath a metre thick layer of river alluvium and construction fill. Occasional, deep excavations for road repair and utilities installations have revealed unmarked burials.

Archaeologists also used ground penetrating radar in the cemetery area to locate burials so that they could be avoided by future construction. There were several interesting anomalies between one and two metres below the ground surface. Presently archaeologists have not conducted ground truthing of these radar anomalies. In addition to the numerous human burials encountered in this area, excavation crews have also found wooden posts, historic trade goods and prehistoric stone tools.

At some later date, the Hudson's Bay Company established a horse race track immediately behind the power plant near the present day ball stadium. Parts of the track can be seen in a 1905 photograph taken behind the power plant, but it is not recorded on any maps of the flats prior to this date.

WALTERDALE FLATS - 5

Crossing the 105th Street Bridge, you arrive on the Walterdale flats, named for John Walter. John Walter was an Orkneyman, who worked as a boat builder for the HBC between 1870 and 1875 before beginning his own business on the south bank of the river. Walter's enterprises included lumber milling, blacksmithing, coal mining, a general store, and telegraph



The great flood of 1915, showing Walterdale flats under several metres of water. Floods such as these deposit sediments on the lower river terraces, covering former ground surfaces and artifacts (CEA E-10-892).

office as well as boat building. A natural ford in the river (just upstream from the 105th Street Bridge) was the foundation for Walter's ferry service. If you look in the bushes near the river edge on the west side of the bridge, you will see the remains of an old ferry. Until recently, the remains of a York boat constructed by Walter also lay near the river bank.

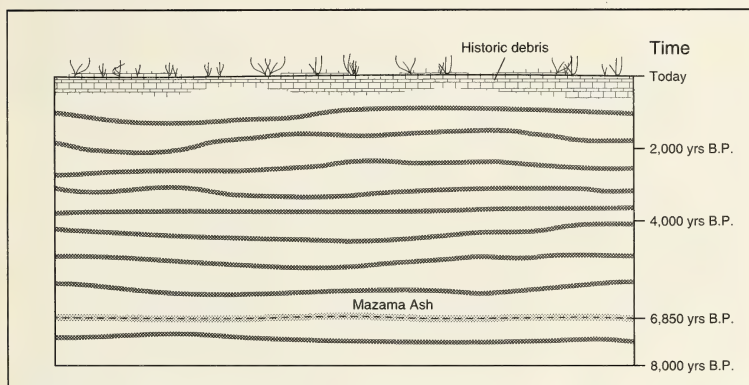
When the river is low, the skeleton remains of an old sternwheeler, The City of Edmonton, poke out of the water on south side of the river. John Walter constructed and used this sternwheeler, complete with dance floor and a band, at the turn of the century for Saturday evening excursions on the river; the 50 cent sternwheeler tour was very popular. Modern entrepreneurs are now attempting to revive this romantic era and have recently constructed a replica sternwheeler (complete with Casino) for use on the North Saskatchewan River. John Walter was Edmonton's first millionaire and his business success was legendary. He was instrumental in the amalgamation of Edmonton and Strathcona before he died of complications following an appendicitis operation in 1920.

Several of John Walter's residences have been preserved although most of his empire was destroyed in the great flood of 1915, when several metres of water washed over the flats. These former residences were moved to their present location, immediately west of the Walterdale Bridge, and are now used as interpretive centres by the City of Edmonton Parks and Recreation Department. Tours of the buildings are available to the public on Sunday afternoons, between 1:00 and 4:00 PM.

Prehistoric site deposits were discovered during the construction of the nearby Kinsmen Sports Centre. Test excavations in the area of the parking lot revealed a few scattered stone tools in alluvial deposits. The age and affiliation of these remains could not be determined, although they were clearly prehistoric given the depth of burial.

LRT & HIGH LEVEL BRIDGE (SOUTH END) - 6

The area near the High Level and LRT bridges contains an array of well preserved archaeological sites. If you walk down to the river bank along a cut made to construct the LRT bridge, or look down from the High Level Bridge to the south bank to your right, you will see a large exposed face of the river bank. It contains numerous, well defined layers. Every year as the river erodes the banks, parts of archaeological sites are washed away and lost. Inspection of the flood plain sediments reveals bone scraps combined with ash and charcoal from both historic and prehistoric occupations. The flood plain sediments also reveal another ash deposit, a volcanic ash fall that covered a vast area of northwestern North America about 6,800 years ago.



River floodplain profile showing the 6,850 year old Mazama ash layer covered by successive layers of sediments deposited by flooding episodes.

The massive eruption of Mount Mazama was about 10 times the magnitude of Mount St. Helen's in 1981 and has given archaeology a valuable dating technique. Archaeological remains found below the ash deposit are older than 6,800 years and those above the ash are younger. The Mazama ash exposed near the south abutment of the LRT bridge is part of a layer cake of sediments. These layers contain the most recent (A.D. 1915) flood events and those that occurred well before the Mazama ash fall. When you touch the layers below the ash, you are reaching back more than 7,000 years into the past.

Prior to the construction of the High Level Bridge, this portion of the south bank of the river was the scene of several bustling industries. Some of the remains from these enterprises are now visible between the High Level and LRT bridges. If you search carefully, you will find building cellar depressions, chimney foundations, trash deposits, brick kilns and borrow pits. These features relate to Firmin Bedard's Tannery (1895-1915) and Frank and John Pollard's Brickyard (1898-1915).

Many of the early immigrants to the Edmonton area were originally

drawn by the lure of northern gold fields, but they found another form of gold that persuaded them to put down roots in Edmonton. Clay seems an unlikely substitute for gold, but these early entrepreneurs recognized that the growing community would need bricks. The river valley clays and nearby coal seams provided the necessary ingredients for a brick manufacturing industry.

The most obvious feature here, related to brick making, is the huge borrow pit from the Pollard Brickyard. The clay from this pit was dug by hand and ramped out of the pit. The clay was then molded into bricks and fired in long linear kilns running perpendicular to the river. Brick from the plant was used to construct several local churches, including Holy Trinity (10037 - 84 Ave), Strathcona Baptist (8318 - 104 St.) and St. Anthonys (10661 - 82 Ave). The Pollard's built a two story brick mansion adjacent to the plant.

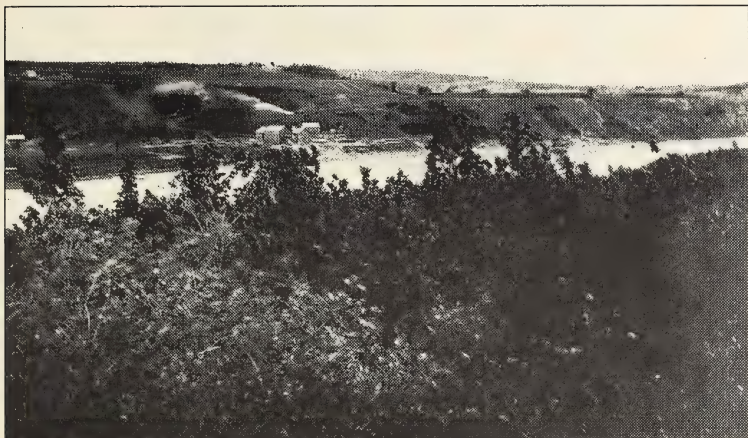


Large borrow hole on south river bank behind the Pollard Brickyard.

Brick fragments are scattered over a wide area on the flats, and exposures in the river bank reveal dumps of brick debris and profiles of the former brick kilns. On the north side of the road running west from the LRT bridge ramp there are several linear brick kiln structures. If you look along the top of the river bank between the High Level and LRT bridges, you can see cellar depressions and a chimney base. All of the industrial enterprises in this area, and elsewhere in the valley, were heavily damaged and ultimately closed as a result of the devastating flood of 1915. The alluvium from this flood can be seen at the very top of the river bank profile.

7 - ROYAL GLENORA SPORTS FACILITY AREA

The Royal Glenora Sports Facility presently dominates the flats below Ezio Faraone park. Somewhere near, or beneath this complex are the remains of a lumber and grist mill and an early brewery. The lumber and grist mill was operated by the Hudson's Bay Company between 1830 and



View to the north bank of the river and the old grist mill and lumber yard, below the fort, c.1884 (PAA B.6571).

1885, when it was destroyed by fire. Sometime after the fire, a brewery was established on the same location. The name of the owner is uncertain, but some people believe John Walter was a major investor. The brewery buildings were abandoned shortly after the turn of the century. For fifty years the brewery buildings remained standing and were used by the market gardeners who farmed the river flats. The road, leading from the Royal Glenora Club to the south end of the Legislature grounds, is already evident in a photograph from the 1870s.

If you are energetic, climb the set of stairs by the LRT line near the Royal Glenora Club, until you are at the same level as the LRT line. Then, you will be standing on the Great Northern railway bed. You can see it running along the ridge a short ways toward the west.

- This concludes the short tour of archaeological and historic sites.

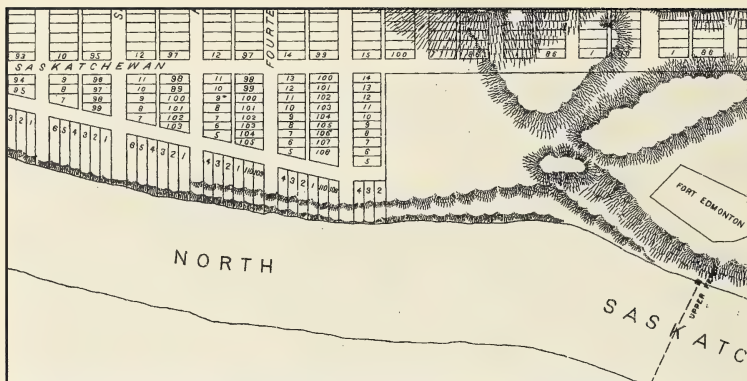
THE LONG WALKING TOUR

The following locations can be added to the ones you already visited for a longer walking tour, ending at the Provincial Museum of Alberta.

The rest of the river flats along River Valley Road were legally surveyed in 1885. As you walk along the flats, you are crossing various properties that likely were never owned by early Edmontonians.

VICTORIA PARK - 8

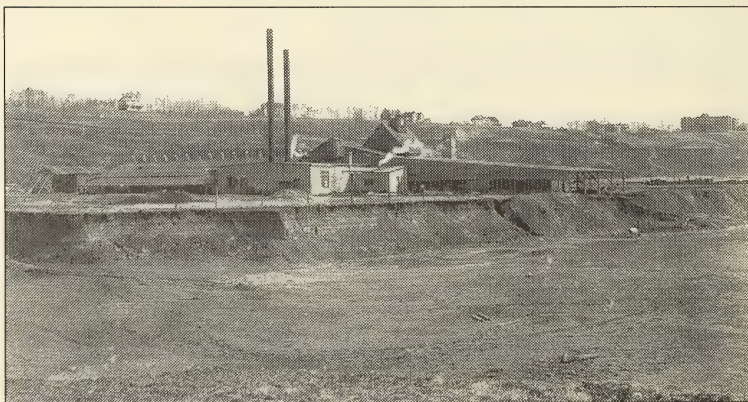
At the turn of the century Native people camped on Victoria flats when they came to trade at the Hudson's Bay Company post. The Victoria Park



Parts of the Victoria River flats 1885 legal survey and HBC Fort Edmonton V (CEA).

flats also witnessed industrial and agricultural development at the turn of the century. Historic archaeological sites are still visible on this landscape.

The Sandison Brickyard was originally established on the current site of the Mayfair Golf Club in 1902. In 1905 George Sandison established a larger plant in the vicinity of the present day Victoria Golf course. The large depression or clay pit for this plant is visible on the golf course's 7th fairway. The bricks were hauled by wagon up Brickyard Road - a section of which is visible at the top of the valley near the south end of 121st Street. Sandison's enterprise was eventually taken over by the Edmonton Brick Company which operated from 1905 - 1914. Maintenance workers at the Victoria Golf Course occasionally encounter brick fragments on the manicured fairways. When workers were digging the Sandison clay pit in 1905 they found many bones and stone tools buried in the clay deposits, the remains of one of the many deeply buried archaeological sites on the Victoria flats.



Sandison Brickyards on Victoria flats, 1905 (GA NA 132864389).



Picnic on Victoria flats, 1911 (CEA EA-407-4).

GOVERNMENT HOUSE PARK - 9

The Government House Park location is also a good prospect for finding archaeological sites. The park and Groat Ravine were favorite recreation areas at the turn of the twentieth century. If you look carefully in the ravine you can find Chinese perennial vegetables growing that were once part of a market garden that covered most of the Victoria flats, including the area near the north end of Groat Bridge. The construction of Groat Bridge, other roadways and the expansion of Government House Park have profoundly affected the appearance of Groat Ravine. Still, amidst all of this change, there are small portions of the ravine which remain intact. The south facing, level terrain of the ravine would have supported a variety of plant and animal species, and the presence of a creek flowing into the river would have ensured ready access to fresh water and good fishing. For archaeologists, the area is ideal for discovering ancient sites, particularly since flood waters of the river and creek would have deposited sediments to bury and preserve archaeological sites in the ravine. If you were an archaeologist, what area in the park would you think held the most promise of preserving an archaeological site?

GOVERNMENT HOUSE - 10

The high terrace overlooking the North Saskatchewan River on the grounds of Government House also has a high potential for containing prehistoric archaeological remains. Although intensive archaeological investigations have yet to be conducted on the grounds, archaeologists have found quartzite flakes near the edge of the terrace. More extensive archaeological remains likely exist.

As you turn to walk toward the Provincial Museum of Alberta, you will immediately notice one of the most magnificent buildings in Alberta-Government House. Built in 1913, this famous building and the grounds



Ladies on parade in Groat Park, 1913 (GA NA 1328 64573).

surrounding it, contain archaeological remains associated with its changes throughout the years.

- This concludes the long walking tour of archaeological and historic sites.

IV THE INNER TOUR - **PROVINCIAL MUSEUM**

Your outside walking tour is now complete. You can continue to learn more about Alberta by strolling through the human and natural history galleries of the Provincial Museum of Alberta. In the museum, you will see many parts of Alberta. You will gain a greater appreciation of how Edmonton's archaeological and historic sites relate to the rest of the province's history. The galleries contain exhibits describing and showing artifacts from Native and European history. Use the first sections of this booklet as a guide and general reference for viewing the history and archaeology of the province. Compare the archaeology of the Greater Edmonton Area to other parts of Alberta.

The new Syncrude Canada Aboriginal Peoples Gallery opens in 1997. It contains artifacts and describes archaeological sites from the Greater Edmonton Area, but also elsewhere in Alberta. Dioramas, such as the Paleo-Indian hunting scene in southern Alberta, provide you with information about the early human occupation of Alberta. Come and see the new gallery being constructed and, examine how Edmonton's Native prehistory fits into the broader Alberta picture.



Fletcher Diorama, Provincial Museum of Alberta. An artist's early conception of an approximately 9,000 year old hunting scene in southern Alberta. Compare this drawing to the final diorama to see what changes were made (Archaeological Survey, PMA).

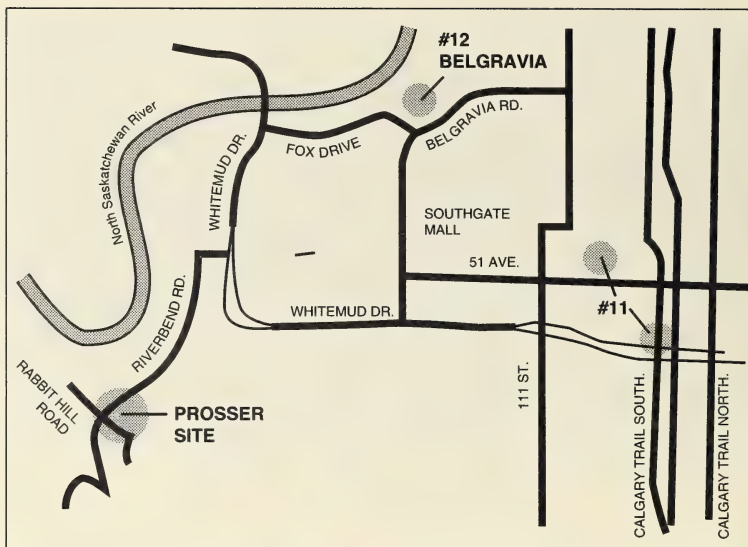
THE BIKING & DRIVING TOUR

There are several archaeological sites, shown on the map on the inside front cover, which you can visit by bicycle or by car. By visiting them and reading about them in this booklet, you will experience what it must have been like to camp, for example, on some of the higher hills in the area. From the tops of those hills, you will appreciate why Native people selected these spots. It is only by being there that you can fully appreciate their significance.

EDMONTON'S KAMES AND THEIR HISTORY - 11

Many of the kames on the south side of the river contain prehistoric remains. These relatively steep-sided hills are found as isolated mounds in Edmonton but occur in clusters west of Edmonton in the Lake Wabamun area. They were formed when glacial ice stagnated in the Edmonton area, allowing sediments to collect in openings between the ice. One of the most remarkable characteristics of these high hills is that humans periodically camped or lived on top of them for centuries. Unfortunately, on nearly every one of these hills, there has been significant development destroying most of the archaeological remains. An amateur archaeologist found a projectile point, bone fragments and stone flakes on the kame along Whitemud Freeway and Calgary Trail South. Although it could not be dated, the projectile point resembles some of the Early Prehistoric points found elsewhere in Alberta.

You can take 106th street to the Pleasantview Cemetery Hill. From the Pleasantview hill, the hill along Calgary Trail is quite visible.



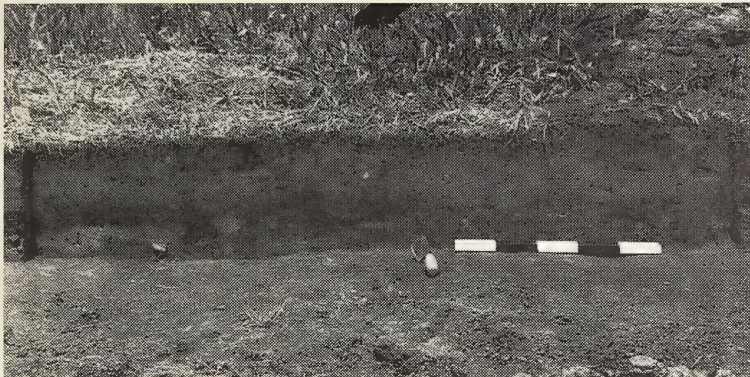
Kame locations in southwest Edmonton.

The Prosser Site

If you are in the Riverbend area, walk to the top of the kame with the little park on it, just off Riverbend Road and Rabbit Hill Road, and take a look around you. The view is spectacular! Can you see other high points or kames near you? Can you see the kames near the Whitemud Freeway and Calgary Trail? If you look south there is another high hill approximately one kilometre away. Prehistoric people used these high places to watch the surrounding countryside for game. The kame upper sediments do not contain many rocks and thus, unlike the river valley edges, people did not visit them to gather raw materials for making stone tools.

The Riverbend kame also contained a very large archaeological site – the Prosser Site, reported to the Alberta Government by amateur archaeologist, Ted Prosser. From limited excavations, archaeologists recovered approximately 1,700 prehistoric artifacts deposited in approximately 40 centimetres of soil. Here Native people resharpened their stone tools which were made from quartzite, chert, petrified wood and mudstone. Unlike the deposits in the river valley, there were no clear layers or stratigraphy at the Prosser site. Artifacts made and used by people thousands of years apart were often mixed together, because there was less soil deposition, the site had been plowed and there were numerous rodent burrows. Compare the stratigraphic profile of the Prosser site to the one exposed near the LRT Bridge in the North Saskatchewan River valley. If you had to keep artifacts and layers separate, which site would you prefer to dig at?

Despite the poor stratigraphic separation of artifacts from different time periods, the archaeological evidence from the Prosser site is still very



Stratigraphy at the Prosser Site. Note the poorly defined layers at this site

valuable. Oxbow points (4,600 - 3,000 years before present.), McKean points (4,000 - 2,500 years before present), and points from the Late Prehistoric Period (1,750 - 225 years before present) were found at the site. Thus, we can conclude that Native people camped intermittently on the hill for nearly 5,000 years.

Native people camped elsewhere in Riverbend, near these hills. There are many other archaeological sites in the surrounding area. While the Prosser site is large and was used for over a long span of prehistory, the surrounding smaller sites were used less often for different purposes. Some archaeologists think that Prosser was a lookout point and temporary camp used by hunters to watch the movements of animals in the valley. This is based on two major points: 1) Prosser's unique geographic location; and, 2) the types of tools and flakes found at the site. The site is located at the beginning of a narrow funnel into Riverbend where, because of geographical constraints, herd



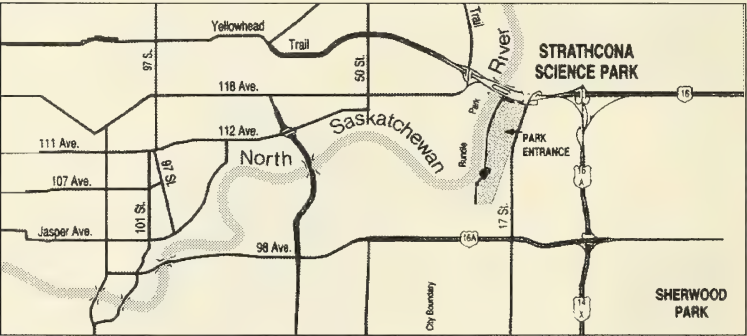
Stone projectile point found by amateur archaeologist on hill near Calgary Trail South & Whitemud Freeway.

animals such as bison were more concentrated and, thus, more easily hunted. There was a greater abundance of tool finishing and resharpening flakes and broken projectile points at the Prosser site than at other sites such as the Strathcona archaeological site.

12 - SASKATCHEWAN DRIVE & FOX DRIVE

The high river terrace, where Saskatchewan Drive and Fox Drive meet, overlooking the Whitemud stables in the valley, is similar to the setting of the Strathcona archaeological site. It faces west and south along the terrace edge. At one time the ravine now containing Fox Drive may have contained water. When you visit this location you will get a magnificent view west of the North Saskatchewan River Valley.

Archaeologists think that an archaeological site exists along this terrace edge. Quartzite flakes from tool making or maintenance lie along the paths near the edges of the terrace. Eventually, archaeologists may test the area to determine how extensive these archaeological remains might be. This site will add yet another bit of information to the growing data base about the human history of the area.

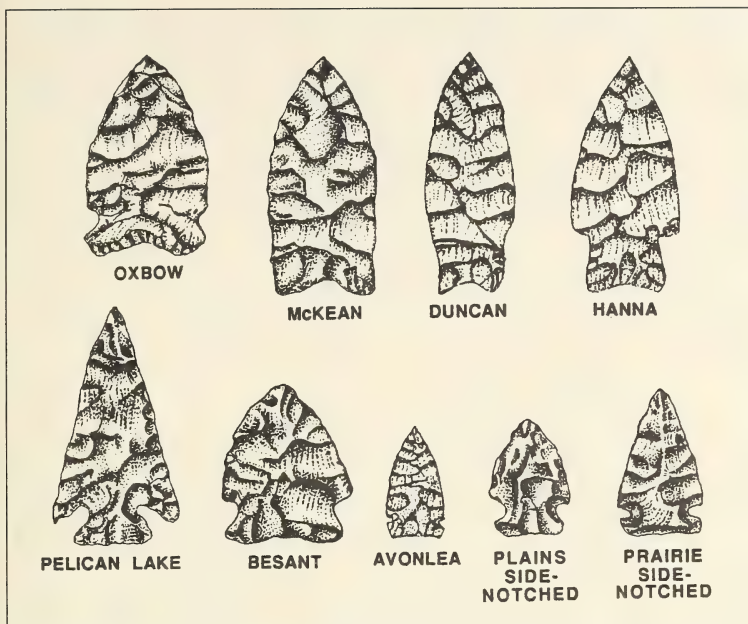


East Edmonton and location of the Strathcona archaeological site.

This marks the end of the tour of archaeological sites in the west and central part of Edmonton. We will now journey to the east side of Edmonton and continue to examine prehistoric and historic archaeological sites that occur along the banks of the North Saskatchewan River, as far as Fort Saskatchewan.

13 - STRATHCONA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE

This site is located across the river from Rundle Park, on the high terrace in Strathcona Science Park and has been extensively excavated. It was once interpreted to the public as part of the Strathcona Science Park, but is now closed and inaccessible. The Strathcona site location is similar to other prehistoric sites in the Edmonton region. You will notice that it sticks out on a bit of a point overlooking the North Saskatchewan River Valley on the

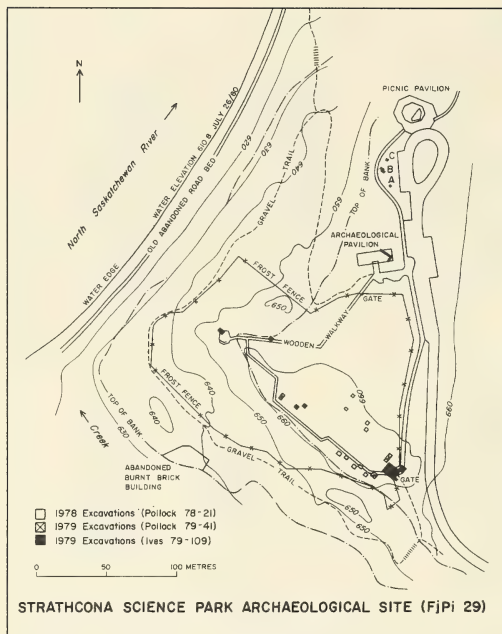


Middle and Late Prehistoric Period points recovered from the Strathcona site.

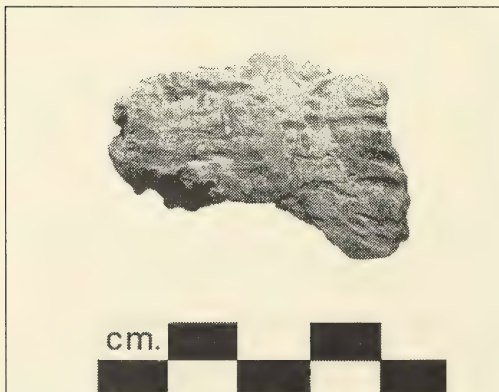
north side and a steep ravine/gully on the west side which may have contained water. The site has good exposure to the southwest, which made it a very favorable camping spot. The existing portion of the site is only about 10% of the original site, which went to 17th Street.

All available evidence indicates that the Strathcona site was first occupied during the Middle Prehistoric Period, possibly as early as 5,000 years ago. Archaeologists have recovered Oxbow, McKean, Duncan, Hanna, Pelican Lake, and Late Prehistoric (Besant, Avonlea, side-notched points) projectile points from the site. Unfortunately, the soil deposition at this site is similar to the Prosser site. All artifacts are deposited in about 50 - 75 centimetres of matrix. Although the projectile points seem to lie in the correct vertical order - that is, the oldest points occurring in the lowest deposits and the most recent points found near the ground surface - very little soil separates them. Because the site lies on top of a high terrace, there was no flooding to deposit sediments to separate each occupation.

In the lower cultural levels, archaeologists found remains of an ancient hearth. It was a shallow depression in the ground that contained dark organic earth. A large cluster of fire-broken rock, a hammerstone and stone flakes mark a place where Native people made stone tools. Although animal bones are relatively sparse, the remains of a complete bison mandible, along with other animal bones, allow archaeologists to reconstruct human diet.



Location and layout of the Strathcona archaeological site (from Ives, 1985).



Cord marked pottery, Strathcona archaeological site. Note the decoration on the pottery (from Ives, 1985).

Archaeological investigations at the site have yielded thousands of artifacts, the majority being stone flakes and shatter. A few one metre square units contained 600 - 2,000 stone artifacts, primarily stone flakes. Quartzite dominates the assemblage. The site contains a diversity of stone tools, including bifaces, unifaces, scrapers, projectile points and hammerstones. The recovery of cord-marked pottery and a microblade core from the site is rare at such central Alberta sites. The cord-marked pottery appeared during the Late Prehistoric Period and is found throughout central and southern Alberta, occurring less frequently in central Alberta. The microblade core was made from silicified wood. It represents a very specialized technology whereby a piece of stone is carefully prepared so that small, narrow stone blades can be removed from it. More blades with more cutting edge can be removed from this type of core. It, therefore, represents a

more efficient use of raw material than other stone tool making techniques.

Archaeologists have extensively studied the thousands of stone flakes from this site to determine the methods Native people used to make their stone tools. By piecing together the fractured stones and by conducting experiments, these seemingly useless stone flakes from the Strathcona site can be an important source of information about stone tool manufacture.

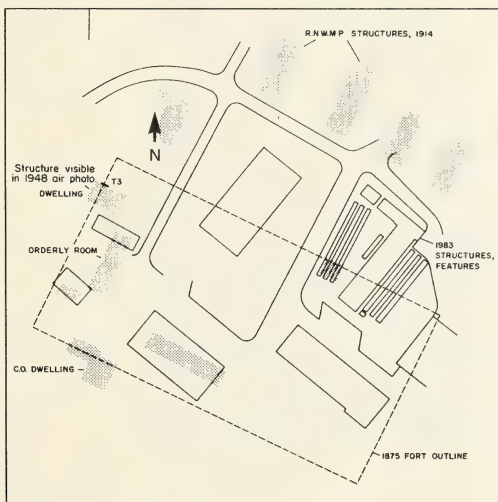
One of the questions surrounding the Strathcona site is its specific function or use. Archaeologists first thought that the site functioned solely as a lithic quarry source. If you examine the banks below the site, there are good exposures of quartzite cobbles, mudstone, and silicified wood. Certainly, this is one reason why people came to the site. Archaeologists still don't clearly understand whether Native people visited Strathcona solely to collect good rocks for tool making or, if while they were in the area hunting or gathering, they would then take the opportunity to collect raw materials for stone tool making at the site.

FORT SASKATCHEWAN, - 14 NORTH WEST MOUNTED POLICE FORCE

In 1874, the North West Mounted Police established forts in southern and central Alberta. Initially, the police wanted to build their northern fort across from Fort Edmonton V, but this plan was never carried out. The force decided to construct their new post (at the site of the old correctional institute) on the south bank of the North Saskatchewan River, in Fort Saskatchewan. In 1885, the defensive works at Fort Saskatchewan were strengthened and manpower was increased. The fort became the headquarters for the force's "G" division. This division patrolled a vast northern area as far away as Fort Simpson and Chesterfield Inlet, N.W.T.

W.A. Griesbach, son of Superintendent A.H. Greisbach who commanded the fort for 17 years, describes what Fort Saskatchewan looked like:

"The quarters and stables were built of squared framed pine timbers with shingle roof and board floors and whitewashed. The shingles were



The position of Fort Saskatchewan relative to the old Correctional Institute buildings .

original fort. Surprisingly though, archaeologists have found the remains of palisade footer trenches and palisade pales still intact to allow them to position the post, relative to present correctional institute buildings and the 1914 R.N.W.M.P. buildings. An assortment of artifacts have also been recovered from garbage dumps located at the site.

There is virtually no physical evidence on the surface of the ground to show you that there was once a N.W.M.P. post at this site. These are the kinds of situations that archaeologists are constantly faced with. Using the available documents and finding physical remains associated with the fort, they must pinpoint the location of a site or feature on the ground. You can be an archaeologist at this site. With this map of the original post's position, try to figure out where the boundaries of the fort were located, and where the officers and the men once lived on the grounds.

FORT EDMONTON/AUGUSTUS I - 15 (1795 - 1801) AREA

This area, where the traders built the first Fort Edmonton/Augustus, has a rich and varied history. As you drive down the road along the stretch of river between the Highway 15 bridge crossing and the Sturgeon River, look at the layout of the fields and roads relative to the river. Notice that the fields all run to the edge of the river and are not oriented to the current land grid survey system. This is the old river lot system, established in various parts of Alberta (St. Albert, Victoria, Fort Vermilion) during the nineteenth century. Each land owner had access to the river, which was the focal point of transportation, and the fertile land further back from it.

You can see from some of the names of the owners on the River Lot map, that French Canadians settled along the flats during the 1870's. The Lamoureux brothers may have first claimed some of the river flats in 1873. If you look on a recent county map of the area, their descendants still own some parcels along the north bank of the river. Jean d'Artigue, one of the original members of the N.W.M.P., owned the lot that Theophile Lamoureux later claimed.

At River Lot Number 8, you will find a National Historic Sites cairn on the south side of the road. The cairn does not mark the location of any particular fort. According to the fur trade documents, the Hudson's Bay Company, North West Company, XY Company, Ogilvy and Company, the "Grants", and "Francois Beaubien" all built posts somewhere in this vicinity during the late eighteenth century. Some of the fur trade sites that were not cultivated are often quite visible on the ground surface. You can still see large depressions of building cellars, large mounds of stone which mark collapsed fireplaces of buildings and, sometimes, linear depressions that mark footer trenches or palisade lines.

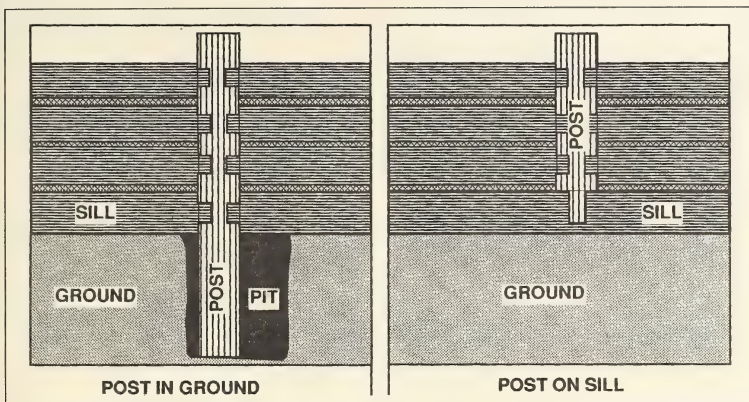
There is still some doubt as to which of the different localities in the field below you belongs to which particular fur trade enterprise. Archaeologists believe that the fort sites are scattered along a two and one-half mile stretch of the North Saskatchewan river, west of Sturgeon River. In any case, these river lots were inhabited throughout the nineteenth century by settlers, who built log structures similar to those of the fur traders. Although there are subtle differences in construction between these later

Plan of a
TRAVERSE OF THE SETTLEMENT
or
FORT SASKATCHEWAN
N.W.T.

Scale 20 chains to one inch
Special Survey
June 1878

*With Map
in the
30th May 1877*

buildings and those of the early fur trade forts, archaeologists have not thoroughly excavated the sites to recover enough information to sort them out chronologically. The early posts were surrounded by palisades. The buildings were made using a post-in-ground log construction method as opposed to a post-on-sill method used to construct later log buildings in Alberta.



This illustration shows the wall of a log building, illustrating the difference between a post-in-ground and post-on-sill building construction method. The former log construction technique was used between 1788 - 1820s, and then replaced by the post-on-sill construction method. How can each construction method be identified from the archaeological record?

If you were an archaeologist, trying to sort out where each company built on the flats, and how long they stayed there, here are the facts that you would have to work with. See if you can make any solid conclusions without doing additional archaeology:

1. Duncan McGillivray, North West Company clerk, stated that Fort Augustus was built, "...on a spot called the Forks, being the termination of an extensive plain contained between the two Branches of this River."

2. According to the Hudson's Bay Company's Peter Fidler, "Edmonton House was built approximately one mile upstream from the mouth of the Sturgeon River."

3. John McDonald of Garth, North West Company, noted that the "Hudson's Bay and North West Company posts were a musket shot apart from one another."

4. William Tomison, chief trader of Edmonton House, stated that the Blackfoot and Blood might go "below" to the North West Company to trade.

5. John McDonald of Garth stated that the XY Company built, "on the other side of us."

- This concludes the archaeological guide and tour of the Edmonton area.

PHOTO - MAP CREDITS & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Publication of this booklet was funded and supported by the Strathcona Archaeological Society, through grants from the Alberta Historic Resources Foundation and the Government of Canada, Access to Archaeology Program.

Information gathered by many professional and amateur archaeologists who worked in the area have been cited and used in this manuscript: Eric Damkjar, Mike Forsman, Rod Heitzman, Jack Ives, Robert Kidd, Sheila Minni, Barry Newton, Leslie Nogue, Gerry Oetelaar, John Pollock, Colin Poole, Ted Prosser, Heinz Pyszczyk, Don Steer, Todd Styles, Milt Wright, Edo Nyland (U.of A. Physics).

Photographs and maps used in this booklet appear courtesy of the Provincial Archives of Alberta (PAA), the Glenbow Archives (GA), City of Edmonton Archives (CEA), Provincial Museum of Alberta, Archaeological Survey (AS), the Hudson's Bay Company Archives (HBCA), R.C.M.P. Museum, Regina (R.C.M.P.).

This booklet was adapted from a earlier version compiled by Milt Wright. Gabriella Prager provided editorial advice. Layout of this booklet was completed by Diana Skrepnyk and printed by Rainbow Copy Centre, Edmonton.

SUGGESTED READINGS

Gilpin, John

1984 *Edmonton: Gateway to the North.*
Windsor Publications.

Godfrey, J. D. (editor)

1993 *Edmonton Beneath Our Feet,*
A Guide to the Geology of the Edmonton Region.
Edmonton Geological Society, Edmonton.

Helgason, Gail

1987 *The First Albertans, An Archaeological Search.*
Lone Pine Publishing, Edmonton.

Kidd, Robert S.

1987 *Archaeological Excavations at the Probable Site of the First Fort Edmonton or Fort Augustus, 1795 to Early 1800s.*
Provincial Museum of Alberta, Occasional Paper No. 3.

Ives, J.W.

1985 *Strathcona Site (FjPi-29) Excavations 1979.*
Archaeological Survey of Alberta,
Manuscript Series No. 3, Edmonton.

- Losey, Timothy C.
1971 The Stony Plain Quarry Site.
Plains Anthropologist 16:138-154.
- MacDonald, George Heath
1959 *Edmonton, Fort - House - Factory*
The Douglas Printing Co., Edmonton.
- MacGregor, J. G.
1967 *Edmonton, A History.*
Hurtig Press, Edmonton.
- Newton, B. & J. Pollock
1985 *Strathcona Site (FjPi-29) Excavations 1978.*
Archaeological Survey of Alberta,
Manuscript Series No. 2, Edmonton.
- Pyszczyk, H.W.
1985 *Strathcona Site (FjPi-29) Excavations 1980.*
Archaeological Survey of Alberta,
Manuscript Series No. 4, Edmonton.
- Pyszczyk, Heinz W.
1992 *The Architecture of the Western Canadian Fur Trade:
A Cultural Historical Perspective.*
Society for the Preservation of Architecture in Canada,
Bulletin 17:32-41.
- Ream, Peter T.
1974 *The Fort on the Saskatchewan,
a Resource Book on Fort Saskatchewan and District.*
Metropolitan Printing, Edmonton.

NOTES

Library and Archives Canada
Bibliothèque et Archives Canada



3 3286 53362974 3